2023 GUARDIANS YEARBOOK

GUARDIANS YEARBOOK

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PROGRESSIVE FIELD

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If RBI's mean more to you than ROI's, Enjoy the Game!!!

But if ROI drives your business decisions, keep reading.

Recent events have proven for most of us that replacing your game-day wardrobe is a lot less expensive than replacing your roof. We want to help with that.

In 1981, Hicks Industrial Roofing had been in business for 34 years, when we installed a brand new product in the market. We didn't know what to expect. As time passed, we did a few more. By the mid-90's we started promoting it... Fast forward 42 years, thousands of Commercial/Industrial roofs, and millions of square feet later, we still have
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Funding for the 2022 Continuing the Conversation is provided by the Ohio Commission on Minority Health along with additional funding support from the Ohio Department of Health through a CDC Federal Grant – CDC-RFA-OT21-2103: National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High Risk and Underserved including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities

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The surviving stories about this season bring it to life in ways that simply saying "since 1948" cannot.

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Major League Baseball's youngest roster ran away with the AL Central title.

DOMINICAN HOSPITALITY
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This offseason, Guardians Academy staff demonstrated the warmest, most genuine invitation to feel at home during time spent on the island.

2023 PROMOTIONAL SCHEDULE

APRIL

April 7	Opening Day, Magnet Schedule & Car Magnet PROGRESSIVE ○

MAY

May 12	Asian American Pacific Islander Celebration
May 13	Mystery Gold Glove ■
May 26	Free Shirt Friday ◆, Sugardale Dollar Dog Night,Fireworks, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
May 27	Josh Naylor Jersey Bally Sports ◆, Fireworks Wyndale, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
May 28	Kids Fun Day, Kids Run the Bases Cleveland Clinic Children's

JUNE

June 9	Free Shirt Friday ◆, Sugardale Dollar Dog Night, Fireworks Legacy Roofing, $2 Pregame in the District Lite, Pride Celebration
June 10	Triston McKenzie Jersey Sugardale ◆, Fireworks, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
June 11	Kids Fun Day, Kids Run the Bases Cleveland Clinic Children's
June 22	Trucker Cap ■
June 23	Free Shirt Friday ◆, Sugardale Dollar Dog Night,Fireworks, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
June 24	Andrés Giménez Bobblehead drug mart ◆, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
June 25	Kids Fun Day, Kids Run the Bases Cleveland Clinic Children's

JULY

July 3	Hawaiian Shirt ▲, Sugardale Dollar Dog Night, Fireworks Wyndale, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
July 5	Larry Doby 1948 Cap DollarBank ■, Larry Doby Celebration
July 7	Free Shirt Friday ◆, Fireworks
July 8	José Ramírez Reversible Bucket Hat PROGRESSIVE ▲, $2 Pregame in the Distric Coors Light
July 9	Kids Fun Day, Kids Run the Bases Cleveland Clinic Children's
July 21	Free Shirt Friday ◆, Sugardale Dollar Dog Night,Fireworks DollarBank, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
July 22	Steven Kwan Bobblehead ◆, Fireworks, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
July 23	Kids Fun Day, Kids Run the Bases Cleveland Clinic Children's, Slider's Birthday
July 26	Stainless Steel Tumbler LEXUS ■

AUGUST

August 4	Rock 'n' Blast FirstEnergy, Free Shirt Friday ◆, Sugardale Dollar Dog Night, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
August 5	Rock 'n' Blast FirstEnergy, Weekender Bag Sysco ◆, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
August 6	Kids Fun Day, Kids Run the Bases Cleveland Clinic Children's
August 18	Free Shirt Friday ◆, Sugardale Dollar Dog Night, Fireworks, $2 Pregame in the District Coors Light
August 19	Guardians Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Guardians Hall of Fame Bobblehead Medical Mutual ◆, Fireworks SHEETZ $2 Pregame in the District Coors Light
August 20	Kids Fun Day, Kids Run the Bases Cleveland Clinic Children's

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1	Free Shirt Friday ◆, Sugardale Dollar Dog Night, Fireworks, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
Sept. 2	Emmanuel Clase Bobblehead Bally Sports ◆, Fireworks Wyndale, $2 Pregame in the District Lite
Sept. 3	Kids Fun Day, Kids Run the Bases Cleveland Clinic Children's
Sept. 15	Hispanic Heritage Celebration
Sept. 16	Lightweight Hoodie Window World ■
Sept. 23	Sugardale Dollar Dog Night, Fireworks, $2 Pregame in the District Coors Light, Fan Appreciation Night, 2024 Schedule Poster 77X ○
Sept. 24	Kids Run the Bases Cleveland Clinic Children's

○ All Fans ■ 10,000 Fans ◆ 12,500 Fans ▲ 15,000 Fans

Promotional Calendar Subject to Change.

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LETTER FROM THE OWNER

THE OFFICIAL YEARBOOK OF THE CLEVELAND GUARDIANS

DEAR FANS,

Dear Guardians Fans,

We are beyond excited to welcome you back to Progressive Field for an amazing, action-packed 2023 season of Cleveland baseball!

The Guardians had a lot to be proud of during the 2022 season, and we think it's important to take a moment to recognize all our achievements this past year. Shane Bieber, Andrés Giménez, Steven Kwan and Myles Straw earned Rawlings Gold Glove Awards, setting a franchise record for most Gold Glove Awards in a single season. Manager Terry Francona secured his third American League Manager of the Year honors. The Cleveland chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association of America recognized José Ramírez and Triston McKenzie for their excellence both on and off the field. And last – though certainly not least – the youngest team in the Majors claimed the AL Central title for the first time since 2018.

In what we thought would be a season of growth and rebuilding, the newly introduced Cleveland Guardians proudly made their name known. Now, our organization is ready for the opportunity, excitement and impact to come in the 2023 season. We've worked hard during the offseason and Spring Training to promise you the very best in Cleveland baseball, connecting with our community and our city to set the foundation for a successful future and reach our goal of a World Series title.

A strong core group of players returns to Progressive Field this season, with José Ramírez at the helm of his 11th season with the organization. The Silver Slugger award-winner ended the season last year batting .280 with 29 HR and 126 RBI. Rookie of the Year finalist Steven Kwan and Oscar Gonzalez are both coming in hot off their debut seasons, while All-Star and MVP award-winner Andrés Giménez continues to be a shining example of all this young team is capable of. A few new additions were welcomed to the team this offseason as well, including offensive powerhouse Josh Bell and veteran catcher Mike Zunino.

In addition to our extraordinary group of athletes and coaches, we understand that our organization's unprecedented accomplishments would not be possible without the support of our incredible fanbase. You are the reason our home run hitters, walk-off wins and sold-out ballpark mean so much more than baseball, and we want to thank the Cleveland community for standing beside us through all our at bats.

The 2023 season is full of promise, and we can't wait to see you at the ballpark.

Sincerely,

Paul Dolan
Owner, Cleveland Guardians

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CLUB OFFICERS

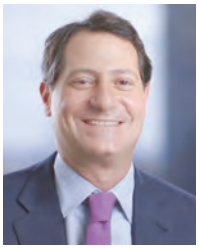
THE OFFICIAL YEARBOOK OF THE CLEVELAND GUARDIANS

PAUL J. DOLAN
Owner/Chairman/Chief Executive Officer
The Dolan family's ownership of the Cleveland Guardians franchise enters its 24th season in 2023, while Paul Dolan begins his 11th campaign as the primary control person after being formally approved by Major League Baseball on Jan. 10, 2013. Paul continues to serve as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Guardians, roles that he accepted prior to the 2011 season. He began as Vice President, General Counsel upon joining the organization in 2000 and later served as the club's President from 2004-10.

A fifth-generation Clevelander, Paul was born and raised in nearby Chardon, Ohio where he attended high school at Gilmour Academy in Gates Mills. He graduated with a B.A. degree from St. Lawrence University in 1980 and received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Notre Dame's Law School in 1983. Prior to joining the Guardians, Paul was a partner at Thrasher, Dinsmore & Dolan, a Chardon, Ohio-based law firm.

Dolan is involved in various business interests throughout Northeast Ohio and is engaged with many philanthropic and civic boards throughout the Northeast Ohio community. He is currently Chairman of United Way of Greater Cleveland as well as the Greater Cleveland Partnership, and serves as a board member for The Cleveland Clinic, Playhouse Square Foundation, Unify Labs and Cleveland State University. Paul has been the co-chairman for VeloSano Bike to Cure in each of the event's last nine years (2014-22) and also races as a Guardians team member. The Greater Cleveland Sports Commission honored the Dolan family with the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award, which is annually presented to an individual or group that has demonstrated extraordinary dedication to the advancement of sport in Cleveland.

Paul and his wife, Karen, reside in Geauga County and have two adult sons.

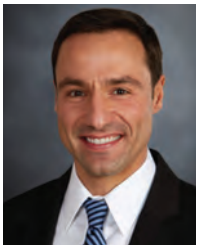


DAVID BLITZER
Vice Chairman
David S. Blitzer enters his second season with the Cleveland Guardians after being announced as Vice Chairman and minority ownership partner on June 27, 2022, completing the successful transition of the interest John Sherman maintained before purchasing the Kansas City Royals.

A respected global sports and entertainment investor, Blitzer is Co-Founder and Co-Managing General Partner of Harris Blitzer Sports & Entertainment (HBSE) and has more than a decade of expertise owning and operating professional sports teams, including the Philadelphia 76ers (NBA), New Jersey Devils (NHL), Crystal Palace (EPL), Real Salt Lake (MLS) and numerous international soccer clubs.

Originally joining the firm in 1991, Blitzer is the Global Head of Blackstone's Tactical Opportunities Group, which identifies global investment opportunities across industries and asset classes. He graduated magna cum laude from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. David currently serves on the Boards of Dream, a youth development organizing servicing more than 2,200 inner city children, the Riverdale Country School, the Advisory Board of the Mount Sinai Surgical Department, the Board of Overseers at the Wharton School and the Board of Trustees at the University of Pennsylvania.

David and his wife, Allison, are committed to giving back to the community, as they established the Blitzer Family Foundation to support organizations that positively impact community enrichment and youth development through education, athletics, health and wellness. David and Allison reside in New York City with their five children.



CHRIS ANTONETTI
President, Baseball Operations
Now entering his 25th year as a member of the Cleveland Guardians franchise, Chris Antonetti begins his eighth full season as President of Baseball Operations after being elevated to the position on October 6, 2015. The 2023 campaign will mark his 13th overseeing the club's Baseball Operations after spending five seasons as the club's Executive Vice President and General Manager from 2011-15.

Antonetti, 48, has worked with GM Mike Chernoff and teammates across the organization to build a foundation for sustained success by seeking to maximize all avenues of player acquisition and development, while also cultivating an organizational culture that supports continual learning and growth.
Chris guided a reshaping of Cleveland's Major League club prior to the 2013 campaign, which began with the hiring of Terry Francona, a two-time World Series champion with more than 30 years of professional baseball experience, as manager on Oct. 8, 2012. In the ten years since, Cleveland has posted the American League's 2nd-best record (.557, 845-671) – 4th-best in the Majors overall – highlighted most notably by four A.L. Central titles (2016-18, 2022) and six MLB Postseason appearances that saw the organization advance to the 2013 A.L. Wild Card Game, 2016 World Series, 2017 A.L. Division Series, 2018 A.L. Division Series, 2020 Wild Card Series and 2022 A.L. Division Series. Over the last decade beginning with 2013, Cleveland has played a combined total of just 19 regular season games outside of Postseason contention. That stretch began with an eight-year span (2013-20) that saw Cleveland post eight consecutive winning seasons and the A.L.'s best record by a six-win margin (.565, 673-519). Cleveland was one of only four MLB teams – two in the A.L. - with eight straight winning seasons from 2013-20 in what was the longest such streak for the franchise since 1994-2001 (8). In recognition of recent organizational accomplishments, Antonetti was named 2016 Executive of the Year by Baseball America following the club's World Series run and 2017 Executive of the Year by Sporting News after Cleveland achieved its third 100-win campaign (102-60) in the now 122-year history of the franchise; Antonetti was named Sporting News Executive of the Year again in 2022, as the youngest roster in MLB came within one win of advancing to the A.L. Championship Series.

Over a nine-year period from 2002-10, Chris assisted with significant rebuilding efforts as both Assistant GM (January 2002) and, later, Vice President of Baseball Operations (March 2007) that were rewarded when Cleveland led Major League Baseball in wins and advanced to the 2007 A.L. Championship Series. He originally joined the Guardians organization prior to the 1999 season as an assistant in the Baseball Operations Department and was promoted to Director of Major League Operations in August 2001.

Chris began his career in professional baseball in the summer of 1997 as an intern with the Montreal Expos in West Palm Beach, FL. He was later hired as Assistant Director of Player Development with the Expos in November 1997 and served in that position until joining the Cleveland staff.

Antonetti graduated magna cum laude from Georgetown University in 1996 with a degree in Business Administration and earned a master's degree from the University of Massachusetts in Sport Management the following year. At Georgetown, he was a student manager for the men's basketball team for one-and-a-half years under John Thompson, Jr.
Chris currently serves on the MLB Club Executive Committee for The Players Alliance, which was formed in 2020.

Chris and his wife, Sarah, live in Rocky River, Ohio with their daughters, Mya and Ella.

BRIAN BARREN
President, Business Operations
Brian Barren enters his 10th season with the Cleveland Guardians in 2023 and seventh as President of Business Operations. He joined the organization in January 2014 and served as Executive Vice President of Sales & Marketing over his first three seasons. In his present capacity, Brian oversees all aspects of the club's business functions.

Barren joined the Guardians following an accomplished, 24-year career with Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati, Ohio where he developed a wide variety of skill sets and expertise in Customer Business Development and general management of multi-functional business teams. As a senior leader at P&G, Brian had team leadership responsibility on the company's Walmart and Kroger Teams, two of P&G's top customers in the world.

Brian is a 1989 graduate of Princeton University, where he earned a degree in History that included his senior year thesis researching the integration of Major League Baseball. He played football for four years at Princeton as a classmate and teammate of Toronto Blue Jays President & CEO Mark Shapiro. Brian was also an Army ROTC scholarship student as an undergrad at Princeton, fulfilling his commitment to the U.S. Army as a tank commander upon graduation.

Brian and his wife, Kris, reside in downtown Cleveland and have two sons, Billy and Brad. Brian was one of Dan and Catherine Barren's six children. His late father was a well-respected teacher and high school football coach for many years at Columbus Academy, where Brian graduated in 1985, and finished his coaching career as the inaugural Head Football Coach at Notre Dame Cathedral Latin (Hall of Fame Class of 2004). Brian serves as a board member for College Now Greater Cleveland, the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

BOB DIBIASIO
Senior Vice President, Public Affairs
Bob DiBiasio is entering his 44th season with the Cleveland Guardians franchise and his 45th in Major League Baseball in 2022. He started with Cleveland in 1979 as Assistant PR Director, was named Director of PR in 1980, and named Vice President of PR in 1988. The Lakewood, OH native was promoted to his current position in 2011. His lone season away from the Guardians was 1987 when he served as PR Director for the Atlanta Braves.

DiBiasio serves as President of both Cleveland Guardians Charities and the Greater Cleveland Sports Hall of Fame, and is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Cuyahoga County Public Library Foundation, the Bob Feller Act of Valor Foundation and Baseball Heritage Museum at League Park.

Bob has hosted the popular "Guardians Alumni Roundtable" television show on Bally Sports Great Lakes, as well as "Guardians Tales" – a where-are-they-now segment that airs pre-game every Sunday on the Guardians Radio Network. He was the 1999 recipient of the prestigious Robert O. Fishel Award for Public Relations Excellence in Major League Baseball and was also

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inducted into the Lakewood High School Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame in 1999. In 1986, DiBiasio was named Public Relations Director to Sports Illustrated's Dream Team.

DiBiasio graduated from Lakewood High School in 1973. He earned degrees in journalism and education from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1977. While at Ohio Wesleyan, Bob was sports editor of the school paper "The Transcript", served as the student Sports Information Director, and did color on OWU football and basketball broadcasts. DiBiasio also played one year of basketball and two years of baseball at OWU. In 1978, he earned his master's degree in Journalism from The Ohio State University and started a stint as Assistant Sports Editor of the Fremont (OH) News Messenger before joining the Guardians.

Bob and his wife, Penny, reside in Solon, Ohio; they have two adult children, daughter, Julie (Matt), and son, Patrick (Liz, and grandson, Max).

ALEX KING
Executive Vice President, Marketing & Brand Strategy
Alex King is entering his 13th season with the Cleveland Guardians, while the 2023 campaign will mark his 11th leading marketing efforts for the organization.

In his current role, Alex oversees all aspects of Marketing and Brand Strategy for the business side of the organization. Alex's focus areas are strategic communications, creating a compelling fan experience, building long-term brand equity, fostering a culture of service excellence, and making a positive impact in our community.

Prior to joining the Guardians, Alex spent more than 10 years in marketing and branding, including each of the last five at Procter & Gamble. Alex received his undergraduate degree in Economics from the University of Dayton where he graduated cum laude and before earning his MBA from the University of Chicago with concentrations in Marketing and Finance.

Alex resides in Shaker Heights, Ohio with his wife, Kelly, and their daughters, Mallory and Lauren.

NEIL WEISS
Executive Vice President, Chief Information Officer/Ballpark Operations
Neil Weiss begins his 11th season with the Cleveland Guardians and second since being elevated to Executive Vice President after originally joining the organization in March of 2013.

In his current role, Weiss is responsible for all Baseball and Business technologies and is supported by an Information Systems Department consisting of Software/Application Development and Data Architecture, Infrastructure and Operations, Audio/Video Engineering and End User support. In 2018 Weiss was given responsibility for Ballpark Operations, including Safety & Security, Facility Maintenance, Gameday Staff and relationships with City, County and Gateway District Leaders. He is a member of the Business Leadership team and also serves on advisory committees supporting Ticketing, Capital Projects, People Management and more.

Prior to joining the Guardians organization, Neil served as Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer at Jackson Family Wines in Sonoma, CA. His career for the 14 years prior to JFW included retail-focused positions at Williams-Sonoma, Smith & Hawken and Gap Inc., as well as management consulting stints at KPMG and Andersen Consulting. Neil graduated in 1992 from the University of Colorado-Boulder with a BA in International Affairs.

Neil resides in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, with his wife, Laura, and two sons, Cole (Denison, '23) and Hank (Washington University, '25). Neil also serves as a member of the Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) Ohio Leadership Council and the OhioX Advisory Board.

TED BAUGH
Vice President, Corporate Partnerships & Premium Hospitality
Ted Baugh is entering his 15th season with the Cleveland Guardians and second as Vice President, Corporate Partnerships & Premium Hospitality. Ted joined the organization prior to the 2009 season as Director of Corporate Partnerships, a role that has evolved over the course of his tenure to include oversight of the Premium Hospitality business (Suites & Premium Seating) in 2016 and the development of new revenue streams through innovation in 2019.

Baugh's team is responsible for generating revenue by cultivating and maintaining loyal relationships that enhance partners' connection to both the Cleveland Guardians brand and our community through innovative, measurable, and memorable platforms and services; those include naming rights, entitlements, ballpark digital and static signage, use of Guardians logos and trademarks, suites, club spaces, contests and sweepstakes, and properties appearing on CLEGuardians.com, the club's social media platforms and the Cleveland Guardians Radio Network.

Ted has over 25 years of radio, television and sports sponsorship sales and management experience in various markets across the Upper Midwest, Great Lakes and Northeast regions. Prior to joining the Guardians, he served as National Account Manager for Learfield College Sports, facilitating sports marketing and sponsorship sales to prominent national brands and advertisers on behalf of more than 50 collegiate athletic partners.

Ted is a native Clevelander and proud graduate of both St. Edward High School and Miami University. He and his wife, Kristin, live in Avon Lake, Ohio with their children, Sam and Kate.

CURTIS DANBURG
Vice President, Communications & Community Impact
Curtis Danburg enters his 28th season with the Cleveland Guardians.

In his current role as Vice President, Communications and Community Impact, Curtis oversees Corporate Communications, Baseball Information, Player Relations, Broadcasting, Digital Media, Photography, Historical Archives and Community Impact initiatives. He began his career with the organization, spending three years as an intern in the Media Relations Department before becoming a full-time member of Media Relations in 1998. He transitioned in 2005 to lead Corporate Communications and Digital Media, areas still under his direction. Danburg also spent seven seasons (2005-2011) overseeing Creative Services before being promoted to a leadership role within the Communications Department in 2011. He was elevated to his current role as a Senior Officer in January 2020.

A native of Mentor, OH, Curtis graduated from Bowling Green State University in 1996, majoring in Sport Management. He volunteered for four years in the BGSU Sports Information Department and was co-chair of Sport Management Alliance for two years.

Curtis currently serves as a Board Member for Ohio Guidestone and Press Club of Cleveland, and is an Advisory Board Member for the Baseball Heritage Museum.

Curtis, his wife, Danielle, and their two children, Tyler and Hannah, reside in Fairview Park, OH.

RICH DORFFER
Senior Vice President, Finance & Chief Financial Officer
Rich Dorffer is entering his 24th season with the Cleveland Guardians and fifth as Vice President, Finance & Chief Financial Officer for the organization. Rich began his career with the Guardians in May 1999 as the Manager of Corporate Reporting, Development & External Reporting and spent five years from 2013-17 as Senior Director, Planning, Analysis & Reporting before being promoted to Vice President, Finance.

As Vice President, Finance & CFO, Rich is responsible for overseeing and directing all financial-related matters of the Cleveland Guardians in order to fulfill the Finance Department's mission statement, as well as the company's Strategic Priorities, Organizational Purpose and Mission Statement. Additional responsibilities include fostering an environment where measurement and accountability are valued, providing business intelligence tools that allow staff to work smarter and more effectively in the pursuit of their respective departmental goals, as well as to improve overall franchise value. Rich is also the primary liaison with Major League Baseball in regards to all financial reporting matters, administering the league-wide MLB Insurance program and overseeing workers' compensation for the organization.

Rich currently serves on the American Red Cross Board of the Northern Ohio Region. Rich initially joined the American Red Cross Blood Services Board and the Finance & Operations Committee in November 2010 and then the American Red Cross Blood Services Committee.

Prior to joining the Guardians, Rich was employed in the audit and assurance services group of PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP from 1994-1999. A native of Northeast Ohio, Rich attended Dalton (OH) High School where his father continues to live. The 1994 graduate of John Carroll University (BSBA in Accountancy) resides in Green, Ohio with his wife, Lana, her son, Jakob, and his three children, Alaina, Lacimarie and Luke.

JIM FOLK
Vice President, Ballpark Improvements
Jim Folk enters his 42nd season in Major League Baseball and 32nd with the Cleveland Guardians. Folk joined the organization in June of 1992 as Director, Ballpark Operations and was elevated to Vice President, Ballpark Operations in November 2001. He will lead the next generation of ballpark improvements at Progressive Field after being named to his current position in December 2020.

As VP of Ballpark Improvements, Jim acts as program manager to assess, prioritize, and sequence short- and long-term facility enhancements that address major modernization activities at Progressive Field. Jim was heavily involved in the design and construction activities of the ballpark, overseeing the 1993 final series at Cleveland Stadium and the 1994 opening at then-Jacobs Field. He acted as a

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project manager for the Goodyear Spring Training/Player Development Complex and Ballpark, overseeing design and construction activities from 2007-2009.

With Cleveland, Jim has overseen Major League Baseball's All-Star game twice (1997 & 2019), three World Series (1995, 1997 & 2016), and a total of 49 Postseason home games at Progressive Field, along with the then-Major League record of 455 consecutive sellout games, with nearly 60 million fans walking through the gates. In addition, he has assisted Major League Baseball and/or the home club in the execution and supervision of All-Star Games in Chicago (1983 & 2003), Baltimore (1993) and Philadelphia (1996), and World Series in New York (2001 & 2009), Chicago (2005) and Detroit (2006).

The Naperville, IL native's career in baseball began in 1979 with the Chicago White Sox, spending five of his 10 seasons as Assistant Director, Ballpark Operations (1984-88). From 1989-92, Jim was Director of Operations for the Florida Suncoast Dome (now Tropicana Field), where he was involved in the construction and opening of the dome in 1990.

Jim, who earned a degree from Loyola University of Chicago in 1984, is Annual Seminar Vice-Chair of the Stadium Managers Association. He currently serves as Chairman of the USS Cleveland Legacy Foundation and on the Board of Directors for the Bob Feller Act of Valor Foundation, Congregation of Saint Joseph Ministries, the Historic Gateway Neighborhood Corporation and the Downtown Cleveland Alliance.

Jim and his wife, Sue, reside in Westlake, Ohio and have two daughters, Kelly and Erin.

SARA LEHRKE
Senior Vice President,
Human Resources & Chief Diversity Officer
Sara Lehrke is currently in her 39th season with the Guardians organization, her 14th as Vice President of Human Resources and Chief Diversity Officer.

Lehrke began her career with Cleveland in 1985 as Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Business. She has also worked in Ballpark Operations, Personnel and Benefits and was responsible for the creation of the Customer Service department for the Club.

As Vice President, Human Resources and Chief Diversity Officer, Lehrke is responsible for all aspects of talent acquisition, talent development, training and compensation for the organization. Her responsibilities include the coordination, delivery and compliance of all employee benefits, compensation and development. She also assists in the negotiations with various labor unions representing the employees of the Cleveland Guardians. Sara's leadership role as Chief Diversity Officer led to the development and execution of an exemplary Diversity Plan that formed the foundation for more diverse business partnerships with the club, and most recently in the hiring of a dedicated Head of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Lehrke's determination paired with the company's investment in its employees have resulted in the club being honored as Northcoast 99 Award recipients in 11 of the last 13 years (2009, 2011-13, 2015-21). From 2009-14, the Guardians organization was recognized as Best in Class for Workforce Diversity by the Commission on Economic Inclusion four times, as well as being named to the Commission 50 for advancing inclusion and achieving results. The Cleveland Museum of Natural History has recognized the club as part of their Wellness @ Work Awards, placing third in 2009 and first in 2010.

In May of 2018, Sara was recognized by Women In Sports and Entertainment as the WISE Women of Inspiration Recipient. In 2004, Sara was recognized by the YWCA as a "Woman of Excellence" Award winner. She is a 2007 Alumni of LeadDIVERSITY sponsored by The Diversity Center of Greater Cleveland and is a graduate of Leadership Cleveland's Class of 2012. Lehrke also serves on the Board of Directors for The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio.

A native of Lakewood, Ohio, Lehrke currently resides in downtown Cleveland with her husband, Dale. They have a daughter, Jess, and a son, Ben.

TIM SALCER
Senior Vice President, Sales & Service
Tim enters his ninth season with the Cleveland Guardians after being named Vice President of Sales and Service in January 2017. In his present role, Tim is responsible for overseeing Season Tickets, Group Tickets, Corporate Partnerships and Premium Hospitality Suite Sales, as well as Sales Service, Fan Services and Ticket Operations.

Salcer joined the Cleveland organization in October 2014 as Senior Director of Ticket Sales & Service following a 14-year career with Chattem Inc. (National Consumer Product Goods Company) where he worked with top accounts including Walmart and Walgreens. Tim is a graduate of John Carroll University and of Notre Dame Cathedral Latin High School (Chardon) as well St. Paschal Baylon Grade School (Highland Heights). He has coached high school and CYO Football, Basketball and Baseball at NDCL, Mentor Youth Football League and St. Paschal Baylon.
Tim grew up in Lyndhurst and currently resides in Independence, Ohio. Tim's parents, Roland and Jane, lived in Lyndhurst for over 40 years. His late father, an East Cleveland native, was Captain of the Cleveland Heights Police Department, where he was the longest serving policeman in the history of the state of Ohio and second-longest in the nation with 60 years on the job following his service in the tank corp during WWII.

KURT SCHLOSS
Senior Vice President, Concessions
Kurt Schloss is entering his 19th season with the Cleveland Guardians and 11th as Vice President, Concessions. Schloss maintains oversight of all Merchandising, Corporate Purchasing, and Non-Gameday Events, as well as the organization's Food and Beverage business.

A retail and wholesale veteran of more than 17 years prior to joining the Guardians, Kurt joined the club in August 2004 as the Director of Merchandising, overseeing all aspects of the Mall Store, Ballpark and Spring Training retail businesses. He held that position for two seasons before being elevated to Senior Director and taking on Corporate Purchasing for the team.

As Vice President, Concessions, Kurt is responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of the appropriate budgets and business plans, while ensuring a focus on achieving organizational guiding commitments, strategic priorities and organizational financial objectives and strategies.

A native of the Akron area, Kurt attended Walsh Jesuit High School and is a graduate of Ohio State University with a BA in Organizational Communication. He resides in Richfield, Ohio with his wife, Linda, and their three boys, Jack, Robert and Michael.

NICOLE SCHMIDT
Senior Vice President, Organizational Strategy & Analytics
Nicky Schmidt is in her ninth season with the Cleveland Guardians.

In her current role, Nicky oversees the team's efforts in organizational design, strategic planning and business analytics. Her responsibilities include leading the business side's long- and medium-term strategic planning and ensuring those priorities are reflected in near-term business decisions. Schmidt and her team collaborate with functional partners across the organization to deliver data-driven analysis and strategic project management to key business challenges.

Prior to joining the Guardians, Nicky worked in strategy consulting at Monitor Group in Chicago. She earned her undergraduate degree in Marketing and Finance from the University of Iowa and an MBA from Northwestern University.

JOE ZNIDARSIC
Senior Vice President, Legal/Strategic Planning
Joe Znidarsic is in his 19th season as the club's Vice President, General Counsel. As the Guardians senior legal counsel, Joe provides guidance and advice on all legal matters affecting the club, including contracts, regulatory matters, litigation and business planning. .

Joe served as primary legal counsel for the Lawrence Dolan family in the acquisition of the Cleveland Guardians franchise in 2000 and remained as the club's outside legal counsel until 2003 when he was promoted to his current position as chief legal counsel. Joe played a significant role in the planning and creation of SportsTime Ohio, the Dolan family-owned regional sports network, which commenced business in 2006 as the principal provider of Cleveland Guardians baseball video programming. Joe also served as general counsel for SportsTime Ohio until December 2012 when the network was acquired by Fox Sports. More recently, he has counseled leadership on successful efforts to extend the club's ballpark lease, including a $200 million public/private ballpark improvement fund, which will update and remodel Progressive Field in the years ahead. Znidarsic remains a partner in the law firm of Thrasher, Dinsmore & Dolan, which he joined in 1977. Joe has developed significant experience counseling business clients in the areas of mergers, acquisition, governance, finance, income tax and estate planning and continues to provide services in those areas to the firm's clients today.

A native of the Cleveland area, Joe attended St. Joseph High School (now Villa Angela-St. Joseph), graduating from Bowling Green State University in 1973 and Case Western Reserve University Law School in 1976. Joe and his wife, Jill Ledin, live in Lake County. Joe serves as an active participant in many charities, local boards and business groups.

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BASEBALL OPERATIONS

MIKE CHERNOFF
General Manager
Mike Chernoff enters his 20th season with the Cleveland Guardians organization in 2023 and his eighth since being named the 16th General Manager in team history on Oct. 6, 2015. He spent the previous five seasons as the club's Assistant General Manager after being elevated to the position in October 2010.

Chernoff was previously Cleveland's Director of Baseball Operations over four seasons from 2007-10 after spending the 2005-06 campaigns as the Assistant Director of Baseball Operations. His tenure with the organization started in June 2003 when he began an internship in Baseball Operations.

As General Manager, Mike works with President of Baseball Operations Chris Antonetti to lead all aspects of the club's baseball operations, including Major League operations, scouting and player acquisitions, player development and performance, research and development, and contract negotiations. Chernoff has helped lead a variety of strategic moves and organizational development initiatives that have impacted the Guardians current Major League team and organizational culture, including the hiring of Terry Francona, numerous player acquisitions, multi-year contract negotiations, and scouting and development initiatives.

Mike played four years of varsity baseball as a middle infielder at Princeton University and served as captain of the team as a senior. He earned a degree in Economics with a certificate in finance from the Ivy League institution in June 2003.

Mike and his wife, Sarah, reside in Beachwood, Ohio with their sons, Brody and Owen, and daughters, Arielle and Saige. His father, Mark, retired in 2022 as Vice President of Programming for WFAN in New York City following an illustrious radio career that spanned four decades.

MATT FORMAN
Executive Vice President & Assistant General Manager
Matt Forman enters his 11th season with Cleveland in 2023 and seventh since being named Assistant General Manager in 2016. Prior to the 2022 season, his title was expanded to include "Executive Vice President", as Forman's current role supports Chris Antonetti and Mike Chernoff with the co-management of all aspects of Baseball Operations. Among other responsibilities, Forman helps to lead the organization's efforts at the Major League level along with scouting and player acquisitions, player development and performance, and R&D and information systems.

Prior to his promotion to EVP, Forman led the organization's scouting departments (Amateur, Professional & International) and player acquisition processes. Forman also previously held several leadership roles within the club's Baseball Operations department.

Forman's tenure with the Guardians began in 2013 after graduating from Northwestern University in 2011. Matt resides in Rocky River, Ohio with his wife, JoHanna, and their daughters, Olivia and Caroline.

SKY ANDRECHECK
Assistant General Manager
Sky Andrecheck enters his 14th season with the Guardians organization and fourth since being named Assistant General Manager prior to the 2020 season. He was elevated to Vice President of Baseball Research and Development in 2019 after serving the previous three seasons (2016-18) as the club's Senior Director of Research and Development. Andrecheck's tenure with Cleveland began in May 2010 when he was hired as a Baseball Analyst to enhance the club's quantitative efforts in a wide variety of areas.

In his role, Sky assumes responsibility for the club's analytical systems across Baseball Operations, leading the club's analysts and data scientists, while bringing advanced quantitative and analytical research to the organization. He continues to serve as a resource for personnel and strategy decisions throughout Baseball Operations, including both Pro and Amateur Scouting, Player Development and Major League Advance Scouting.

A Chicago-area native, Andrecheck holds both a bachelor's and a master's degree in Statistics from the University of Illinois. Before joining the Guardians, he worked as a statistician at Mathematica Policy Research in Washington, DC. Sky also wrote for several online baseball outlets, including Baseball Analysts and SI.com. He and his wife, Sarah, reside in Shaker Heights, Ohio with their daughter, Adeline.

ERIC BINDER
Assistant General Manager
Eric Binder begins his 11th season with the Guardians organization and second since being named Assistant General Manager. Binder started his tenure with Cleveland in 2013 as the Advance Scouting Intern, progressing into a full-time role in Player Development the following year. In 2017, Binder transitioned into Baseball Operations serving as the director of the department the next two seasons.

As Assistant GM, Eric's responsibilities expand across Baseball Operations in support of Cleveland's Major League staff, Player Development staff, and Scouting departments. His leadership in implementation of process and analysis focuses day-to-day with the Major League coaching staff and Performance areas, while additionally leading the development and implementation of pitching philosophies and programs throughout the organization.

Eric joined the Guardians after a two-year Minor League pitching career from 2012-13, most notably with the St. Louis Cardinals organization. He grew up in Burr Ridge, IL and attended Northwestern University, later graduating from Trinity University in 2010 with a degree in Economics. He resides in downtown Cleveland.

JAMES HARRIS
Assistant General Manager
James Harris begins his seventh season with the Cleveland Guardians and second as Assistant General Manager after spending the previous two years as Vice President of Player Development. Harris joined the organization as Director of Player Development in 2016.

In his current role, James assists in all facets of Baseball Operations, including player and staff procurement and development, along with player personnel decisions at the Major and Minor League levels.

Harris provides macro-level leadership of the Player Development system, including club complexes in both Arizona and the Dominican Republic, along with broad oversight of Major and Minor League Performance areas in collaboration with Strength & Conditioning and Nutrition.

Prior to joining the Guardians, James was a Special Assistant to Baseball Operations with the Pittsburgh Pirates and spent time as Chief of Staff for the Philadelphia Eagles and the University of Oregon. During his 23-year career in sports, he has also spent time with the University of Nebraska, Arizona State University, San Francisco 49ers and Athletes' Performance (EXOS).

James graduated from the University of Nebraska in 2000 with a degree in Human Resources and Family Sciences, has a master's degree in Nutrition and Exercise Science from Nebraska, is a Registered Dietitian (RD) and studied Leadership at the University of Oregon.

A Los Angeles area native, James and his wife, Kimberly, have two daughters, Kamryn and Keliah.

PAUL GILLISPIE
Senior Vice President, Scouting
Paul Gillispie begins his 17th season with the Guardians organization and fourth since being elevated to Vice President of International Scouting. He spent the previous three seasons (2017-19) as Senior Director of International Scouting. In his present role, Gillispie oversees all aspects of International Scouting, including both Latin America and the Pacific Rim, while leading the evaluation, information-gathering and process implementation efforts for the acquisition of international, amateur and professional players.

Gillispie spent two years (2015-16) as the club's Director of Pro Scouting after serving for six years as Assistant Director of Scouting from 2009-14. Paul's tenure with the Guardians started in November 2006 when he began an internship in Baseball Operations and he later went on to become an Area Scout for Georgia, South Carolina and Northern Florida.

Paul graduated from the University of Virginia with a degree in American Politics. He played for the Cavaliers baseball team and was team captain for the 2003-04 season. He is a member of the Buck O'Neil Professional Scouts and Coaches Association. Originally from Danville, VA, Paul resides in downtown Cleveland.

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BRAD GRANT
Vice President, Baseball Operations - Strategy & Administration
Brad Grant is the Vice President of Baseball Operations – Strategy & Administration for the Cleveland Guardians. In his role, Brad assists the Baseball Operations department in all initiatives, including the coordination of capital projects and strategy in the areas of resource prioritization, allocation and baseball facility operations, while also serving as a bridge between Baseball and Business Operations.

A 33-year veteran with the Guardians, Brad spent 2007-2017 as the Director of Amateur Scouting where he managed all elements of Cleveland's selection process during the MLB Drafts. Brad continues to assist in the club's scouting and player acquisition areas.

Brad resides in Rocky River, Ohio with his wife, Kate. They have a daughter, Margaret, and a son, Will.

JOSH GIBSON
Vice President, Learning & Development
Josh Gibson enters his sixth season as a member of the Cleveland Guardians organization in 2022 and second as Vice President of Learning & Development. In his role, Josh focuses on researching, developing and implementing initiatives consistent with the strategy of Baseball Operations, while serving as a resource for staff members across the organization to support their development.

Prior to joining the Guardians, Josh served as a team development consultant in both professional baseball and college football. He also spent three seasons with the Philadelphia Eagles, functioning as the Director of Team Development and Assistant Chief of Staff. Before moving to Philadelphia, Josh spent six years with the University of Oregon football program, where he focused on recruiting, operations and player development.

A San Francisco Bay Area native, Josh earned his Business degree from the University of Oregon and his master's degree in Organizational Dynamics from the University of Pennsylvania. Josh lives in Rocky River, Ohio with his wife, Holly, and son, Torrey
.

JAY HENNESSEY
Vice President, Baseball Learning & Development
Jay Hennessey is entering his sixth season with the Cleveland Guardians as Vice President of Learning and Development for Baseball Operations. In this role, Jay serves as a resource for leaders at all levels to continuously improve through leadership development and learning management initiatives.

Prior to joining the Guardians, Jay served 25 years in the United States Navy. He finished his career serving as Commodore of the Naval Special Warfare Center in Coronado, CA, overseeing the selection, training and qualification for Navy SEALS and Special Warfare Combatant Craft Crewmen.

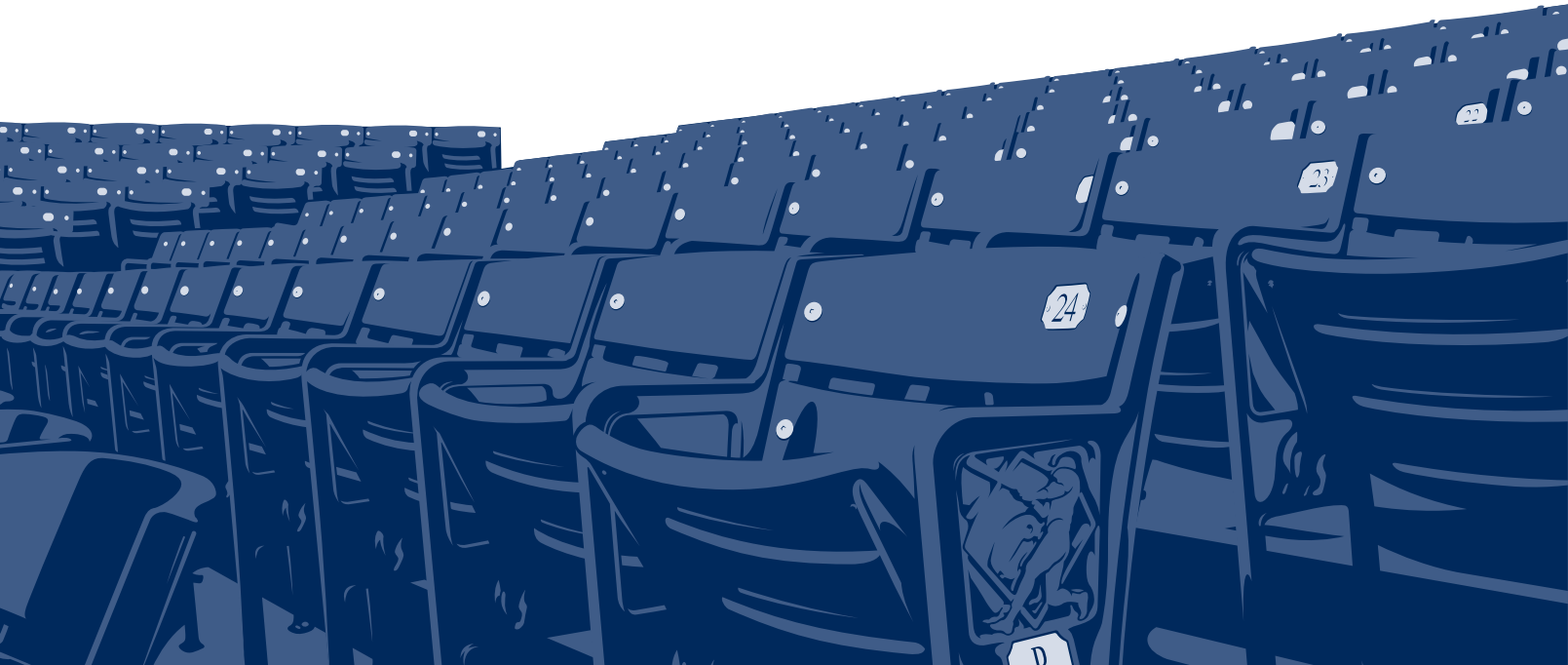
A Connecticut native, Jay earned an undergraduate degree from Villanova University, and graduate degrees from both San Diego State University and the U.S. Naval War College.

Jay and his wife, Jessica, reside in Westlake, Ohio with their four children.

VICTOR WANG
Senior Vice President, Player Acquisitions
Victor Wang enters his 15th season with the Guardians and second since being named Senior Vice President of Player Acquisitions. He was elevated to VP of Player Acquisitions prior to the 2020 campaign. In his current role, Victor provides decision frameworks and processes as a shared service for the organization, while continuing to lead acquisition efforts across scouting avenues.

Victor previously served in Pro Scouting roles as Assistant Director (2013-16) and as Director (2017-19). He joined the organization in a full-time capacity in June 2012 as a Baseball Operations Assistant after spending the previous three summers as a Baseball Operations & Analytics Intern. Prior to coming to Cleveland, Victor wrote for the *Hardball Times.*

Victor grew up in Bloomington, Minnesota and later graduated from Northwestern University in June 2012 with a BA in Economics. He currently resides in downtown Cleveland.



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Guardians

2023 SEASON SCHEDULE

MARCH/APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30 ● 10:10 SEA	31 ● 10:10 SEA	1 ◆● 9:40 SEA
2 ● 4:10 SEA	3 ● 9:40 OAK	4 ● 9:40 OAK	5 ● 3:37 OAK	6	7 ● 4:10 SEA	8 ● 6:10 SEA
9 ● ^1:40 SEA	10 ● 6:10 NYY	11 ● 6:10 NYY	12 ● 1:10 NYY	13	14 ● 7:05 WSH	15 ● 4:05 WSH
16 ● 1:35 WSH	17 ● 6:40 DET	18 ● 6:40 DET	19 ● 1:10 DET	20	21 ● 7:10 MIA	22 ● 6:10 MIA
23 MIA ● 1:40 / 30 ● 1:35 BOS	24 ● 6:10 COL	25 ● 6:10 COL	26 ● 1:10 COL	27	28 ● 7:10 BOS	29 ● 4:10 BOS

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 ● 7:05 NYY	2 ● 7:05 NYY	3 ● 7:05 NYY	4	5 ■● 7:10 MIN	6 ● 6:10 MIN
7 ● 1:40 MIN	8 ● 6:10 DET	9 ● 6:10 DET	10 ● 1:10 DET	11	12 ● 7:10 LAA	13 ● 6:10 LAA
14 ▲ 11:35 LAA	15	16 ● 8:10 CWS	17 ● 8:10 CWS	18 ● 2:10 CWS	19 ● 7:10 NYM	20 ● 4:10 NYM
21 ◇ 7:08 NYM	22 ● 6:10 CWS	23 ● 6:10 CWS	24 ● 1:10 CWS	25	26 ● 7:10 STL	27 ○ 7:15 STL
28 ● 1:40 STL	29 ● 1:05 BAL	30 ● 7:05 BAL	31 ● 3:05 BAL			

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 ● 7:40 MIN	2 ■● 8:10 MIN	3 ○ 7:15 MIN
4 ● 2:10 MIN	5	6 ● 7:10 BOS	7 ● 7:10 BOS	8 ● 7:10 BOS	9 ● 7:10 HOU	10 ● 6:10 HOU
11 ● 1:40 HOU	12	13 ● 9:40 SD	14 ● 9:40 SD	15 ● 8:40 SD	16 ● 9:40 ARI	17 ◆● 10:10 ARI
18 ● 4:10 ARI	19	20 ● 7:10 OAK	21 ● 7:10 OAK	22 ● 1:10 OAK	23 ● 7:10 MIL	24 ● 4:10 MIL
25 ● 1:40 MIL	26	27 ● 8:10 KC	28 ● 8:10 KC	29 ● 2:10 KC	30 ● 2:20 CHC	

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 ○ 7:15 CHC
2 ● 2:20 CHC	3 ● 7:10 ATL	4 ● 7:10 ATL	5 ● 7:10 ATL	6 ● 7:10 KC	7 ● 7:10 KC	8 ● 4:10 KC
9 ● 1:40 KC	10 ALL-STAR BREAK	11	12	13	14 ● 8:05 TEX	15 ◆● 4:05 TEX
16 ● 2:35 TEX	17 ● 7:05 PIT	18 ● 7:05 PIT	19 ● 12:35 PIT	20	21 ● 7:10 PHI	22 ● 7:10 PHI
23 PHI ● 1:40 / 30 ● 2:10 CWS	24 KC ● 7:10 / 31 ● 8:10 HOU	25 ● 7:10 KC	26 ● 1:10 KC	27 ● 8:10 CWS	28 ● 7:10 CWS	29 ● 7:10 CWS

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 ● 8:10 HOU	2 ● *2:10 HOU	3	4 ● 7:10 CWS	5 ● 7:10 CWS
6 ▲ 12:05 CWS	7 ● 7:10 TOR	8 ● 7:10 TOR	9 ● 7:10 TOR	10 ● *1:10 TOR	11 ● 6:40 TB	12 ● 4:10 TB
13 ● 1:40 TB	14	15 ● 6:40 CIN	16 ● 6:40 CIN	17 ○ 7:15 DET	18 ● 7:10 DET	19 ● 7:10 DET
20 ● 1:40 DET	21	22 ● 7:10 LAD	23 ● 7:10 LAD	24 ● 1:10 LAD	25 ● 7:07 TOR	26 ● 3:07 TOR
27 ● 1:37 TOR	28 ● 7:40 MIN	29 ● 7:40 MIN	30 ● *1:10 MIN	31		

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 ● 7:10 TB	2 ● 6:10 TB
3 ● 4:10 TB	4 ● 6:10 MIN	5 ● 6:10 MIN	6 ● 1:10 MIN	7 ● 9:38 LAA	8 ● 9:38 LAA	9 ● 9:07 LAA
10 ● 4:07 LAA	11 ● 9:45 SF	12 ● 9:45 SF	13 ● 3:45 SF	14	15 ● 7:10 TEX	16 ● 6:10 TEX
17 ● 1:40 TEX	18 ● *2:10 KC	19 ● 7:40 KC	20 ● *2:10 KC	21 ● 7:10 BAL	22 ● 7:10 BAL	23 ● 6:10 BAL
24 BAL ● 1:40 / 1 ● 3:10 DET	25	26 ● 6:10 CIN	27 ● 6:10 CIN	28	29 ● 6:40 DET	30 ● 1:10 DET

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Since 1948

By: Anthony Castrovince

It is referenced, too often, as the "since" squad.

You hear Cleveland's most recent World Series champion mentioned whenever a present-day title run is on the table. In that way, it is known as "Since 1948" -- a team used only to illustrate how long the wait (a wait that is now 75 years long) for another triumph has been.

But while 1948 was undeniably a long time ago, the surviving stories about that season bring it to life in ways that simply saying "since 1948" cannot.

To dig into the '48 team, to understand its characters and its clout, is to realize that it was a special squad not just because it stands as Cleveland's most recent baseball champion, but because it contributed to societal progress, featured Hall of Famers galore and won over a city in ways that few other teams in Major League history have.

Here are 10 reasons why that 1948 season is so much more than "since."

1. IT WAS BILL VEECK'S BREAKTHROUGH.

The success of the 1948 Cleveland Indians is of course attributable to many people. But it was team owner Bill Veeck who was perhaps most responsible for taking a franchise that had not won a pennant since 1920 and kicking it into gear.

Cleveland was coming off back-to-back fifth-place finishes when Veeck bought the ballclub prior to the 1946 season. The son of former Cubs president William Veeck Sr. and himself the former owner of the Minor League Milwaukee Brewers, Veeck instantly innovated the Indians by putting all of their games on the radio in '46 and then on television (WEWS) for the first time in 1948. He broke the AL color barrier with the signing of Larry Doby, and he permanently moved the team into Cleveland Municipal Stadium in '47. He also hired Max Patkin, the "Clown Prince of Baseball", as a coach to entertain the fans.

Veeck, known as the "Champion of the Little Guy," was so fan-friendly that he listed his home number in the public directory.

He may have been a little too innovative. The portable center-field fence Veeck installed at Municipal in '47 was adjusted as much as 15 feet depending on the club's opponent in a given home series, prompting the league to create a rule that fence distances must remain fixed all season.

Though known as a master of promotion, Veeck also knew how to build a ballclub.

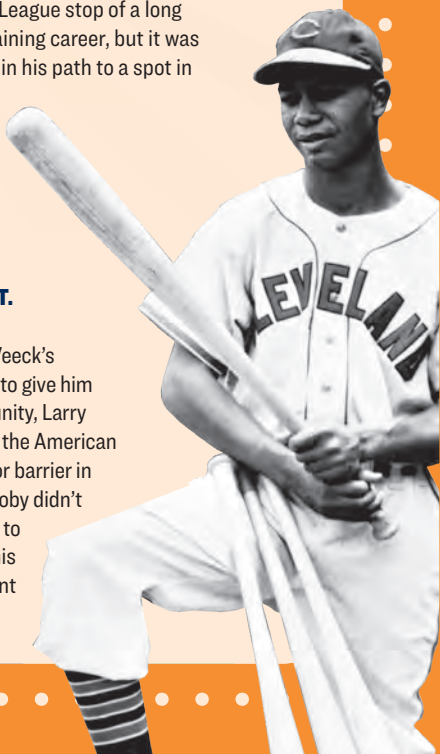
The Indians were terrible in Veeck's first year at the helm. In his second, he traded for future Hall of Fame second baseman Joe Gordon, and the club improved by 12 wins to finish over .500. In Veeck's third season, the Tribe proved ready to bring a World Series championship back to Cleveland.

"Bill Veeck was a big plus as a club owner," Bob Feller once said. "He was very fair with his ballplayers and treated them very well."

Unfortunately, Veeck had to sell the club after the disappointing 1949 season to finance his divorce. So, Cleveland became merely the first Major League stop of a long and entertaining career, but it was a vital stop in his path to a spot in the Hall of Fame.

2. IT WAS LARRY DOBY'S BREAKOUT.

Thanks to Veeck's willingness to give him the opportunity, Larry Doby broke the American League color barrier in 1947. But Doby didn't really begin to showcase his special talent until 1948.



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The '47 season had been a whirlwind for Doby. Unlike Jackie Robinson, who had a year in the Minor Leagues to acclimate to the previously all-white professional ranks before his historic debut with the Dodgers, Doby learned his contract had been purchased by the Cleveland Indians from the Newark Eagles of the Negro Leagues just two days before he made his debut as a pinch-hitter. He struggled in limited opportunities as a pinch-hitter and infielder.

Doby's struggles on and off the field continued in early '48. He faced racism, staying in hotels apart from the rest of the team and having invectives slung at him everywhere he went. His wife had a miscarriage. He had to learn a new position in center field (and more on that a little later). It was a tremendous amount of difficulty directed the 24-year-old Doby's way, all at once. Early in the season, the Indians considered sending him down to the Minor Leagues to find his footing.

In early May, however, the great Hank Greenberg, freshly retired as a player and working in the club's front office, was asked by Veeck to assess Doby's staying power in the big leagues. Greenberg got to know Doby on a deeper level and learned how convicted he was about his abilities. Around that time, Greenberg remarked to the New York Times that Doby "is gonna be a helluva ballplayer."

"He's inexperienced and erratic right now," Greenberg said, "but he can run and throw and hit. My, what power!"

It didn't take long for Greenberg -- and Doby -- to be proven right. Doby took a .246 average into a May 10 game in Boston. That day, he went 4-for-6 with a homer. And from there, he was off the races. He hit .310 the remainder of the season, finishing the year with 14 homers and 23 doubles while proving himself in center field. He even received some down-ballot AL MVP support, finishing 29th on the ballot.

3. IT WAS LOU BOUDREAU AT HIS BEST.

The 1948 club's manager doubled as its best player. Lou Boudreau is the only manager in MLB history to win the World Series and the Most Valuable Player Award in the same year.

And to think, Boudreau almost wasn't even on the '48 team. Veeck had a lot of bright ideas, but trading a 30-year-old Boudreau wasn't one of them. The owner strongly considered the move after the '47 season.

"I liked Lou," Veeck said later, "but when I bought the team I wanted him to do one thing: play shortstop. I didn't think my star should be managing too. When I couldn't convince [Boudreau] to step down, I decided to trade him."

When word of Veeck's plans leaked, the criticism from the Cleveland fan base and from local sportswriters was fierce. Veeck backed down, and it was the best trade he never made. Boudreau wound up batting .355 with 18 homers and 106 RBIs -- all career-bests. He posted those numbers and handled the managerial duties despite suffering a shoulder contusion, bruised knee, sore thumb and sprained ankle in a hard collision at second base.

All told, Boudreau made 676 trips to the plate that season. He struck out in -- and this is not a misprint -- nine of them.

"Actually," Boudreau once said, "I struck out only six times. Three times, I was called out on mistakes by umpires."

Boudreau was at his absolute best in the 1948 AL tiebreaker at Fenway Park. The Indians and Red Sox had finished in a first-place tie, and, in the one-game playoff, the shortstop/skipper made the decision to start left-handed rookie knuckleballer Gene Bearden in a ballpark that could be tough on lefties. Bob Feller called that move "a stroke of genius and a shock to us all. Bearden was effective in a complete game, Boudreau went 4-for-4 with two homers and the Indians won 8-3 to reach the World Series.

When the season was over, Boudreau captured 22 of 24 first-place votes in the MVP balloting. It was the signature year of his Hall of Fame career.

4. IT INCLUDED A CONNECTION TO THE 1920 TEAM.

In both of Cleveland's championship seasons, the club was guided on the field and in the dugout by a player/manager. In 1920, it was Tris Speaker batting .288 with 50 doubles and manning center field while making the managerial moves. And though Speaker's playing days were long over by 1948 (he had been inducted into the Hall of Fame 11 years earlier), he still managed to play a part in the Tribe's next World Series title.

After a very rapid and difficult immersion to the Major Leagues direct from the Negro Leagues in a part-time role in the second half of the 1947 season, Larry Doby was tasked with making the switch from second base to center field in order to solidify himself as a regular. He would battle in Spring Training with seven other outfielders competing for five spots. Doby had an advocate in Bill Veeck, but, on a fundamental level, what he also needed was a tutor.

Enter Speaker.

Speaker was brought to Spring Training camp in Tucson, Arizona, to show Doby the ropes in center field. "The Gray Eagle," as Speaker was known, spent long hours working with Doby on how to play the outfield. The pairing seems odd given the rumors that Speaker, a native of Hubbard, Texas, is alleged by some historians to have been a member of the Ku Klux Klan. While those rumors have never been proven, we know for a fact that Speaker was an important presence in Doby's development -- and, ergo, in Cleveland winning it all again.

"I've never seen a young ballplayer with such a high potential," Speaker later said of Doby. "I used to dream of that kind of rookie when I was managing the Indians."

5. IT MARKED THE DEBUT OF SATCHEL PAIGE.

With the Tribe thin in the starting staff and hurting for help in the bullpen, a big -- and historically significant -- bet was placed on Satchel Paige.

July 7, 1948, marked Paige's 42nd birthday. And his entry into the Major Leagues.

In age and in style, Paige, who was signed by Cleveland that day and debuted two days later, was no ordinary rookie. By that point in his life, he had established himself not just as one of the Negro Leagues' best pitchers, but also the biggest draw. Paige's fastball and flair made him an attraction, and his rubber arm made him a reliable workhorse. Paige's own, handwritten account of his career had him pitching in more than 2,500 games, winning around 2,000 and throwing 250 shutouts. At 6-foot-4, Paige was a tall man, but his legend stands even taller.

Veeck was intrigued. And in need. Though the Tribe was holding its own midway through the '48 season, a fierce fight for the AL pennant among the Indians, Yankees, Red Sox and Philadelphia A's was underway. Veeck's club needed pitching depth to survive that battle, and, having already

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shown a willingness to promote a player direct from the all-Black circuit a year earlier with Doby, Veeck became the one to give Paige the big-league opportunity he had long deserved.

Paige arrived as the first Black pitcher in the AL, and, despite his age, he was no figurehead. He was the real deal. He went 6-1, and his 2.48 ERA for the remainder of the season was second-best in the AL, earning him a fourth-place finish in the AL Rookie of the Year voting. Paige, who had already logged more than 20 seasons in the Negro Leagues, joked that, had he won, he would have declined because "I wasn't sure what year the gentlemen had in mind". Paige's success at that advanced age -- his best of what would be six seasons in the Majors -- was a vivid example of what MLB had missed out on during the needless segregation era.

"Now," Boudreau marveled at one point in the summer of '48, "I can believe some of the tall stories they tell about [Paige's] pitching."

6. IT FEATURED BOB FELLER: STAR AND... SPY?

In 1948, Feller was only 29 years old but had already amassed more than 2,000 innings in the big leagues -- and that was with three seasons lost to his service in World War II.

The one-time teenage wonder was now graying around the temples, facing some criticism that he was too wrapped up in his business pursuits, dealt with a bum back, had been usurped by fellow future Hall of Famer Bob Lemon as the best pitcher on the Cleveland staff and was even booed at home while posting a 9-12 record through July 22.

"I couldn't get anybody out the first half of the season," he said years later. "They wanted me to go to the All-Star Game, and I refused, even though I was chosen."

But when the Indians needed the vintage Feller most, he arrived.

On Labor Day, the Tribe was four games behind the first-place Red Sox with 23 games left to play. The local reporters were already writing the team off, but the Indians still believed in themselves.

"I knew it would be tough," Boudreau later said. "But I still felt that if Bob Feller came through, we could start a win streak."

That's exactly what happened. In the season's final month, Feller made nine starts and went 6-1 with a 1.66 ERA. He was vital in the Tribe's pursuit of the pennant.

But there was another way Feller pitched in.

Feller had returned from the war with a three-foot-long telescope from the USS Alabama. With the Indians hosting 20 of their final 23 games, that telescope became the Tribe's clandestine weapon. When Cleveland was up to bat, Feller, Lemon or some other player not in the game would be stationed in the scoreboard beyond center field. There, they would peer into the powerful telescope and train an eye on the opposing catcher's hand signals. The Indians would then relay signals of their own to the batter to let him know what was coming.

Sign-stealing has a long history in the game and was never a bigger and more controversial topic than when the 2017 Astros' use of technology to steal opponents' signs, en route to a World Series title, were revealed two years later. But Feller's espionage act took place at a time when the tactic was not policed the way it is today.

"All's fair in love and war," Feller said years later, "and when you're trying to win the pennant."

The 1948 season would not go down as Feller's best. His struggles in the season finale, in an October 3 loss to the Tigers, forced Cleveland into the one-game playoff, and he lost both games he started in the World Series (though in one he allowed just two hits in a complete game).

Still, the story of the championship is not completely without mention of his September triumphs... or his telescope.

7. IT WAS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR SEASONS EVER.

The 1948 season was one of the first in which Cleveland played all of its home games at what was the largest stadium in MLB. The Tribe had moved into Municipal Stadium midway through the 1932 season and remained there through 1933. However, complaints about the size of the outfield and the worsening Great Depression conditions that drastically reduced attendance compelled the club to move back to the smaller League Park in 1934 and 1935. The team split its home games between the two venues from 1936 through 1946, before moving back in full-time in '47.

Finally, by '48, Cleveland had a club worthy of all those seats. And those seats got filled.

Thanks to an aggressive marketing campaign, Opening Day against the St. Louis Browns drew 73,163, breaking MLB's opener attendance record at the time by almost 20,000. The team went from drawing 19,513 per game in 1947 to 33,172 in '48. Paige became such a draw that an August 20 home game he started against the last-place White Sox attracted 78,382 fans, shattering the night game attendance record at the time.

"We had great crowds that year," Feller once said. "There are no better fans in the world than Cleveland fans. They're very fair, and they're very knowledgeable."

It wasn't just the play on the field that put butts in the seats. Veeck stepped up his fan-friendly offerings, from fireworks to marching bands to a nursery beneath the right-field grandstand where parents could drop off their little ones.

The team's total attendance of 2.62 million that year was an MLB record until 1962 and a franchise record until 1995 -- the first full season at Jacobs Field. Attendance for Game 5 of the 1948 World Series at Municipal Stadium (86,288) was the largest for a Fall Classic game until 1959 and still stands as the fourth-largest World Series crowd ever.

8. IT HAD ONE OF THE GREATEST GIVEAWAYS EVER.

Among all those fans, one stood out.

Cleveland had so many stars on the '48 squad, and back then it was not unusual to have special days held in honor of a given player. Joe Earley, a (ironically, given his surname) night watchman at a local auto plant and resident of Lakewood, thought those special days were a little indulgent.

So Earley wrote a letter to the Cleveland Press editorial board to complain and, with tongue firmly in cheek, to suggest that the team have a night for the average fan -- him.

"I pay my rent and my landlord spends it on things that keep business stimulated," Earley wrote. "I keep the gas station attendant in business by buying gas regularly. I keep the milkman in clover by buying milk. He uses trucks and tires and as a result his industry is kept going. The paper boy delivers the paper, wears out a pair of shoes occasionally and the shoemaker wins. My wife keeps a grocer and a butcher (don't we all) in business and the department stores as well. A lot of people depend on me (and you) so let us all get together, and send in your contributions for that new car for 'Good Old Joe Earley Night.'"

Veeck read the published letter and decided to take him up on it. On Sept. 28, Earley was feted on the field -- first, jokingly, with livestock (chickens, roosters, pigs and a cow), and then with a 1949 Ford convertible, a radio, a dishwasher, a washing machine, a TV set, clothes, books and a lifetime pass to every park in the American League.

The Tribe won that night, while Boston and New York both lost. So it was a big night in the AL standings. But nobody had a bigger night than Earley.

"And to think," Earley told reporters, "a letter to the Press brought all this, just a letter I wrote in five minutes and mailed before I gave it a second thought."

9. IT CREATED A FASCINATING MYSTERY.

It's perhaps the greatest mystery associated with the Cleveland franchise: What the heck happened to the 1948 World Series pennant?

We throw around the term "pennant" with regard to championships in baseball. But the '48 team had an actual, physical pennant associated with its triumph. It was about 14 feet tall and 20 feet wide, featuring an image of Chief Wahoo with a crown on his head and, in bold type, "1948 WORLD CHAMPION CLEVELAND INDIANS." It was erected high on a pole beyond the center-field wall at Municipal Stadium, where it remained for most of the 1949 season. At a time when MLB had not yet commissioned the Commissioner's Trophy for World Series winners, it was the best physical representation of what the '48 team had accomplished.

But when the Tribe was eliminated from AL pennant contention in September 1949, Veeck -- being Veeck – decided to put on a show. He took the field prior to the game on Sept. 24 against the Tigers dressed as a mortician, sitting atop a horse-drawn hearse, with Indians players and coaches serving as pallbearers. The pennant was lowered and placed in a coffin, which was lowered into a grave just beyond the outfield wall, with a tombstone marking the final resting spot of the "1948 champs."

The next day, the coffin had to be returned to whatever funeral home Veeck must have rented it from, and the pennant was put in stadium storage. Its last known public appearance was on June 11, 1976, when Veeck, by then the owner of the White Sox, was honored with "Bill Veeck Night" at Municipal Stadium. An image exists of the pennant unfurled across the infield during Veeck's speech to the crowd.

Best we know, it has not been seen since. (Please let us know if you have it laying around somewhere, OK?)

10. IT WAS "OUR TEAM."

To win the 1948 World Series, the Indians had to endure a controversial call that cost them Game 1, when the Boston Braves' Bill Masi scored the game's only run after umpire Bill Stewart called him safe on a pickoff play at second base (when Masi passed away in 1990, his will revealed he really was out, as the Indians had always insisted).

They also had to overcome the great Warren Spahn, who they beat in Game 2 before he got his revenge opposite Feller in Game 5. Though the Tribe would have preferred to clinch in that Game 5 in Cleveland rather than take another 12-hour train to Boston, the resulting Game 6 at Braves Field was worth the journey. Bob Lemon worked eight effective innings, and Gene Bearden closed it out in the ninth for a 4-3 victory that sent the Indians home as champions.

The train ride home was raucous, with champagne sprayed all over the dining car. Railroad officials complained about the car's state of disrepair upon the return to Cleveland.

"Don't worry," Veeck told them, "we'll buy you a new one."

The Indians were feted with a parade from Public Square to University Circle, with upwards of 200,000 people greeting them along the way and ticker tape raining down from office windows.

That 1948 World Series has obvious historical significance in Cleveland. But it was also significant in MLB as the first to feature Black players.

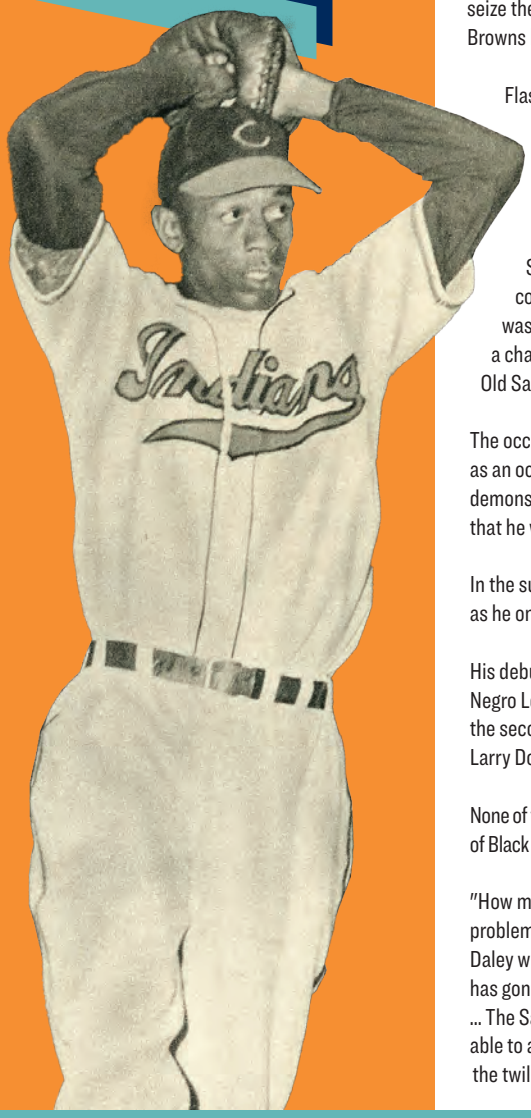
This was noted by the Call & Post, Cleveland's largest Black newspaper at the time.

"Because of Veeck, Larry Doby and Satch Paige have been given the opportunity of demonstrated to America what happens when it takes off its color-conscious glasses," the paper wrote. "For the first time in American League history the Indians are OUR Team, without quibble or qualification."

Sadly, every member of that team has left us. But these stories keep the memory alive.

PAIGE

By: Justice Hill



"Age is a case of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it don't matter." -- Satchel Paige

On July 7, 1948, Cleveland Indians owner Bill Veeck made clear that age didn't matter. Nor did skin color.

Veeck, the master showman with a P.T. Barnum flair, signed the ageless Leroy "Satchel" Paige to a Major League contract. Two days later, Satchel, perhaps the brightest star in the Negro Leagues, made his debut in the bigs.

"Somehow you sense of all the things Bill Veeck has done in the way of entertaining the public, this was the best," Harold Sauerbrei of The Cleveland Plain Dealer wrote after Satchel's first outing. "At the same time, it probably will strengthen the ballclub."

Sauerbrei proved prophetic.

For Satchel, a man who barnstormed the United States and Latin America, showed the 34,780 fans who showed up at Municipal Stadium for the ballgame against the St. Louis Browns what they had missed during his two-plus decades in black baseball.

No doubt, he had lost a bit of the zip on his fastball. What he hadn't lost was the flair for the dramatic or for how to seize the spotlight. His two innings of relief against the Browns became etched in Tribe folklore.

> Flashbulbs popped; the ballpark erupted in cheers as Satchel, a man 42 or older— he turned his age into a guessing game — took a leisurely stroll from the bullpen to the center of the diamond.
>
> "This wasn't exactly a new experience for Old Satchel because he had faced major leaguers on countless occasions," Sauerbrei wrote. "But this was the first time he pitched to a big league club in a championship game — and it made no difference to Old Satchel."

The occasion wasn't too big for Satchel; he was as calm as an ocean with no waves. How could he not be? He had demonstrated on mounds in ballparks across baseball that he was as good as a pitcher gets.

In the summer of 1948 he might not have been as good as he once was, but he was still good — really good.

His debut made Satchel the seventh — and the oldest — Negro League ballplayer to appear in the Majors. He was the second to take the field with the Indians, who signed Larry Doby in 1947.

None of the others had Satchel's résumé. Still, many outside of Black baseball questioned the quality of his work.

"How much help he can give the Indians now is problematical," New York Times sports columnist Arthur Daley wrote the day before Satchel's debut. "The speed has gone from his arm but the cunning still remains. ... The Satch of a decade or two ago might have been able to assure the Tribe of a pennant. But he's been in the twilight of his career for so long that there's just no telling."

Although Satchel was ancient for a "rookie," Veeck knew the veteran righthander, the best drawing card in the Negro Leagues and the first Black pitcher in the American League, was a man with talent.

Satchel's right arm had plenty left in it.

"His wiry arms and stilt-like legs were aerodynamically perfect to propel a ball from mound to plate," nonfiction writer Larry Tye wrote. "They gave him motion. Momentum. Strength. And he had the ideal launching pads: hands so huge they made a baseball look like a golf ball, with wrists that snapped with the fury and flash of a catapult."

Against the Browns, Satchel proved he was still Satchel. His fastball hadn't lost much of its giddy-up, his curve broke as sharply as ever and "hesitation pitch" continued to baffle hitters.

"Old Satchel put most of his wares on display in those two innings," Sauerbrei wrote. "Satchel now is in the big leagues after all those years and there is only one thing left — Satchel in a World Series."

His debut wasn't the only historic moment in Cleveland. Satchel went on to complete the unfinished business that Sauerbrei wrote about. He and Larry Doby, another star from the Negro Leagues, helped the Tribe win the '48 World Series, the team's first since 1920.

Satchel went 6-1 with 2.48 ERA.

Yet even had he not contributed to the title, even if Satchel had never made it to the big leagues, he'd be remembered for blazing a trail in baseball for Black ballplayers who came after him.

As sports editor Dan D'Addona wrote in 2020 for The Holland Sentinel: "Paige was a pivotal figure in the integration of baseball. He helped create the buzz about Black players and Black teams. Thousands and thousands of fans all over the country watched him beat all-white teams, some led by Bob Feller and Dizzy Dean.

"And his legend grew."

Still, inside that legend was a nagging question: What could a 42-year-old rookie, long a darling of media mainstream and of the Black press, contribute to a Major League team in the middle of a pennant race?

"They thought his age was against him," said Phil Dixon, a baseball historian and one of the cofounders of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. "But the same question can be asked of Jackie: Why did they sign a guy that old?

"Veeck knew he could make money off of Satchel. And he instantly did."

Without Satchel on the roster, history might tell a different story about the Indians and their championship season 75 years ago.

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CLEVELAND – THE STAGE IS SET.

BY: MANDY BELL

Last year at this time, the Guardians were trying to figure out their identity. Would they be able to add external help in a rushed "offseason" after MLB's lockout? Or would they enter a rebuilding year, allowing all of its young prospects to get their first tastes of the big leagues?

The club pushed both options out of the way. It was ready to commit to its youth, but Guardians manager Terry Francona knew how to get the most out of his players, preventing anyone from being able to use the term "rebuilding season."

We all know how 2022 panned out. Major League Baseball's youngest roster (by a landslide) went back to the basics, relying on exceptional base running and defense to grind out victories. By the last few months of the year, Cleveland was red hot and ran away with the AL Central title by winning 92 games.

The Guardians were supposed to struggle. They were supposed to have growing pains. They were supposed to spend all season figuring out how to best prepare for a successful future – a time frame that was supposed to be a handful of years away. Instead, they turned the future into the present.

The season ended with sellout crowds at Progressive Field, as the Guardians hosted the Rays in the AL Wild Card Series and the Yankees in the ALDS. Oscar Gonzalez can still hear the roar of the crowd after his 15th inning walk-off homer in Game 2 of the Wild Card Series and his walk-off single in Game 3 of the ALDS.

"It's been very special [playing here], especially since these fans supported us when no one believed in us," Gonzalez said. "They've always been there for us and I have a special place in my heart for them."

A handful of kids under the age of 26 captivated audiences across the country. Seventeen prospects made their Major League debuts throughout the year. Neither of the two other teams (Cubs and A's) that had at least 17 debuts in 2022 boasted a winning record.

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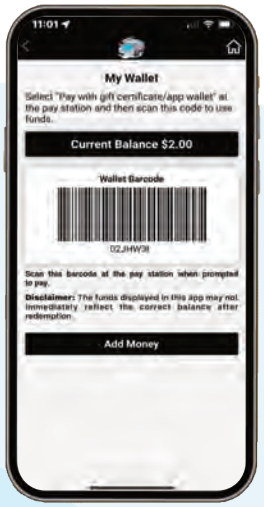

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THE FOUNDATION IS SET

Now, how can they get better?

"For us the goal is having the same mentality," Guardians shortstop Amed Rosario said, "because if we change our mentality then we change who we are as a team. As long as we keep the same unity as a team we'll be able to be successful."

That mentality is simple: Know they can compete with any team, despite their age or size, while remembering everyone who doubted they could be successful. They were underdogs in 2022 and they loved it. Even though they proved they were better than anyone expected them to be, the Guardians don't think they'll be looked at much differently in '23, which doesn't bother them in the slightest.

"No, I think for sure definitely still the underdog mindset," Guardians left fielder Steven Kwan said. "I think some people probably think it's a fluke, that [this type of] baseball doesn't work, whatever narrative they want to drive. But that underdog mentality is still there, especially with us being as young as we are, we still have that fire with us."

The outlook is staying the same. Most of the roster is staying the same. The differences?

Everyone has a little more experience under their belts, and now the lineup is expected to have the power threat it was desperately missing last year.

The Guardians weren't shy in expressing their biggest needs heading into the winter: A bat and someone behind the plate. Before the calendar flipped to 2023 both were addressed, as free agents Josh Bell and Mike Zunino were inked by Cleveland.

"It shows that we're trying to win this next year, so it's really cool," Kwan said.

Cleveland has always valued defense and leadership in its catchers more than their offensive output, but over the last three seasons, its backstops collectively have turned in the worst batting average, on-base percentage, slugging percentage and wRC+ in the Majors. The team needed to find a way to have a veteran presence behind the dish that could lead a young pitching staff, while also bringing more of an offensive threat. That answer was Zunino.

Zunino was an All-Star in '21, hitting 33 homers with an .860 OPS. Defensively, he ranked in the 94th percentile in pitch framing that season and in the 89th percentile in pop time, accumulating seven defensive runs saved. He was forced to miss nearly all of the '22 season due to undergoing surgery on his left (non-throwing) arm for thoracic outlet syndrome, but he's confident that he'll be able to stay healthy and bring a little boom-or-bust to a lineup that hits for average and constantly finds ways on base.

"Super excited," Guardians center fielder Myles Straw said. "They're going to be really good for our team. Now we really have some true boppers. It's going to be a really good lineup and we've got a little bit of everything. It's going to be an exciting offensive year."

That's only the half of it.

Zunino won't be the lone new kid in school. Bell will be alongside him, knowing just how critical he'll be to this roster.

Bell hit 37 homers in '19, 27 in '21 and had 14 in the first half of last season before he was traded to San Diego, where he saw his offensive production slide. His career OPS entering '23 was .810 and he already had a 100+ RBI season under his belt. And for a team that hit the second-fewest number of homers in '22 with a collective OPS (.699) and

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wRC+ (99) that ranked in the bottom half of the league, this addition was a no-brainer.

But as much sense as the deal made for the Guardians, it made just as much sense to Bell.

"I think when you look at the lineup," Bell said, "and you have three to four guys around 20 stolen bases, especially at the top of the lineup, that's a huge opportunity for me to continue to play the game I want to play and put the ball in play a lot.

"I think this year without the shift I'll be rewarded from it a lot. I'm going to have countless opportunities to drive runs in whether they're from first or third, so for me, I can just focus on playing my game and be a complement to this great team."

LET'S NOT FORGET THE TEAM'S MVP YEAR IN AND YEAR OUT: JOSÉ RAMÍREZ.

Ramírez has done it all for the Guardians for nearly his entire career. The switch-hitter is able to hit for power and average, while constantly swiping bags and wreaking havoc on the base paths. He has mastered being a consistent force for Cleveland, and Bell's presence may even be able to make Ramírez better.

Ramírez had Kwan and Rosario ahead of him in the batting order, who were frequently on base for him to drive in.

Behind him, he had a handful of hitters rotate through the cleanup spot to try to find the perfect fit. But because there wasn't much production from that slot in the order, it was easier for hurlers to pitch around the scariest bat in the lineup (though Ramírez certainly made it difficult on them).

Ramírez ranked 24th in the Majors when it came to the lowest number of in-zone pitches he saw. The 23 guys ahead of him were a mix of players who struggled with plate discipline and those who had very little protection in the lineup. Ramírez's case was clearly the lack of threat around him. As the season went on, Ramírez struggled more (a thumb injury that he sustained in mid-June certainly didn't help), but imagining what more he can do with a possible threat in Bell in the cleanup spot behind him is causing everyone in the organization to dream big.

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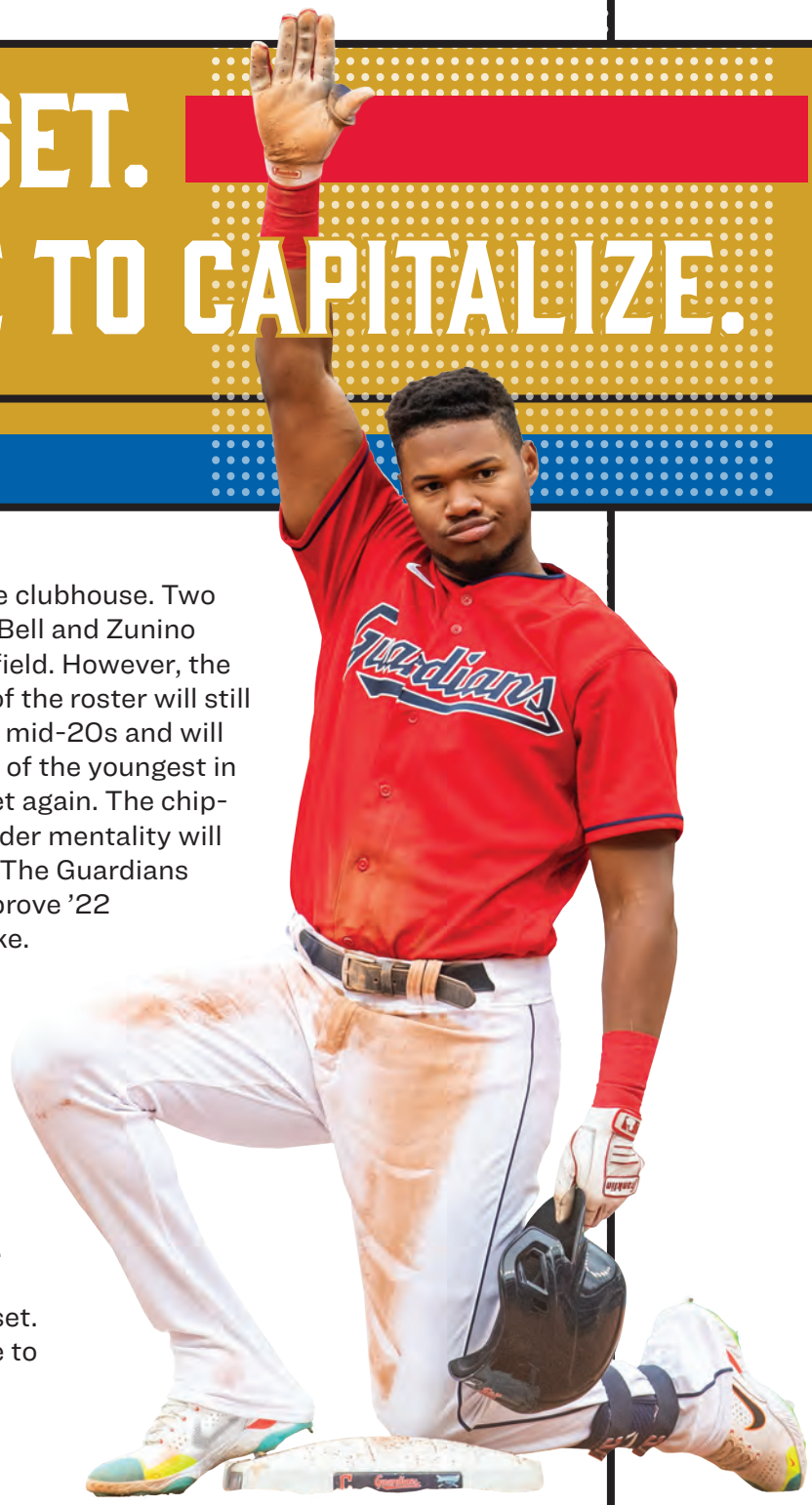
THE STAGE IS SET. NOW IT'S TIME TO CAPITALIZE.



"I know what a power bat can bring to this team, and what it means to José to have someone with power behind him," Bell said. "That's what I've been working towards this offseason.

"But having said that, it seems like this team is already slated to score a lot of runs with their style of baseball. If I'm locked in power-wise, the team's going to be in a great spot, but if we're at the half and I'm hitting .330, everyone's going to be happy, too. You have to pick your poison with this squad, we can beat you in plenty of different ways."

That was Cleveland's goal in 2022. The team wanted to be able to beat its opponents in many different ways. This year, power will likely be a new option.

But there aren't too many changes for the Guardians heading into the new season. Guys like Kwan and Gonzalez may be able to breathe a little easier at camp, knowing they belong in the big league clubhouse. Two new faces in Bell and Zunino will take the field. However, the average age of the roster will still remain in the mid-20s and will surely be one of the youngest in the Majors yet again. The chip-on-the-shoulder mentality will be the same. The Guardians are ready to prove '22 was not a fluke.

And this time, they're entering the year already knowing their identity.

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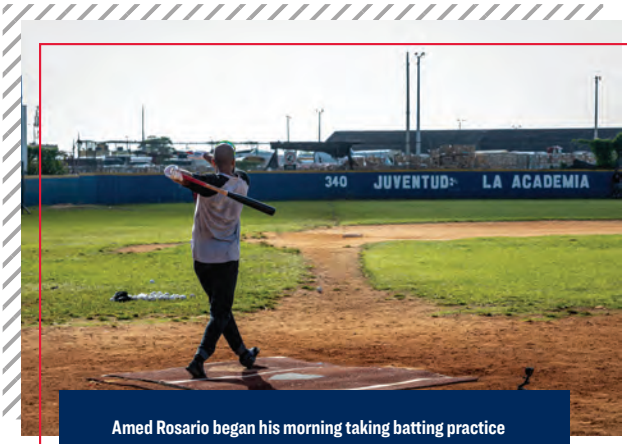
DOMINICAN HOSPITALITY

By: Megan Ganser & Brian Havrilla

During this past offseason, the Cleveland Guardians traveled to the Dominican Republic for a week to visit with Dominican players in their homes, celebrate International Signing Day and participate in two Play Ball Clinics on the island.

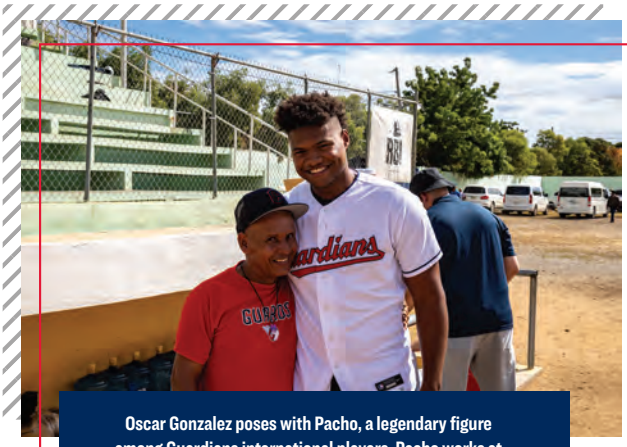


Amed Rosario began his morning taking batting practice as part of his offseason workout regimen at the Dominican Naval Academy's baseball field, where his father taught him the game as a young boy.

Amed Rosario's family prioritized education in their home, so Rosario always had a backup plan to become a veterinarian in the event that he did not make it to the big leagues. Rosario has brought several dogs to his parents' home, including his favorite dog, Blue.

José Ramírez and his family welcomed Guardians staff into their home for a sit-down interview, and more importantly, time to play with Barbies and baby dolls.

The Guardians, in partnership with José Ramírez, hosted more than 100 youth for a Play Ball Clinic at Estadio De Baseball Luis Maria Herrera. Enyel De Los Santos, Oscar Gonzalez, Edwin Encarnacion and Ubaldo Jimenez joined Ramirez at the "pley" (Spanish term for baseball field) and shared life advice and baseball instruction.



Oscar Gonzalez poses with Pacho, a legendary figure among Guardians international players. Pacho works at the Guardians Dominican Academy and is an influential character in the Guardians clubhouse.

Guardians staff, players, alumni, volunteers and more than 100 youth made the Guardians first international Play Ball Clinic possible in Bani, Dominican Republic.

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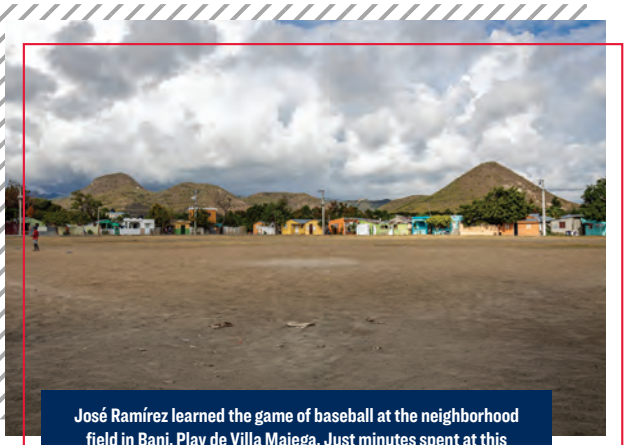
José Ramírez posed for a photo with Play Ball Clinic participants, who left with new aluminum bats, matte helmets and baseball gloves, donated by Pitch in For Baseball/Softball. Ramírez pitched to the youth and shared fielding tips in the infield.



José Ramírez learned the game of baseball at the neighborhood field in Bani, Play de Villa Majega. Just minutes spent at this field provided staff with a lifetime of perspective as barefoot kids ran around laughing, playing and showing their field to Guardians staff with immense pride and happiness.

Oscar Gonzalez rallies his neighborhood to collect bottle caps to fill the neighborhood heart and ultimately donate to the local hospital to support pediatric cancer.

The International Signing Class spent their first full day as Guardians hosting a Play Ball Clinic for 100 youth at the Guardians Academy. The newest Guardians spoke to participants about their road to signing with a big league club and provided hands-on instruction in the field.

The Guardians Academy staff orchestrated the logistics of each event in the Dominican Republic. The staff demonstrated Dominican hospitality--the warmest, most genuine invitation to feel at home during time spent on the island.

International Signing Day proved to be a joyous occasion as 24 prospects officially joined the Guardians organization. Annually, this day is a celebration of the International Scouting Department's work to solidify an incredible class of Guardians players from around the world.

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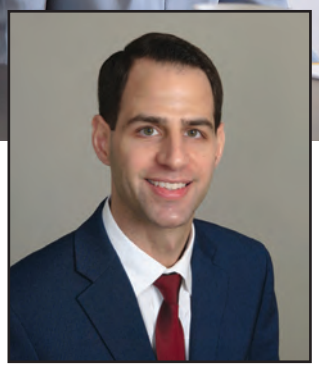

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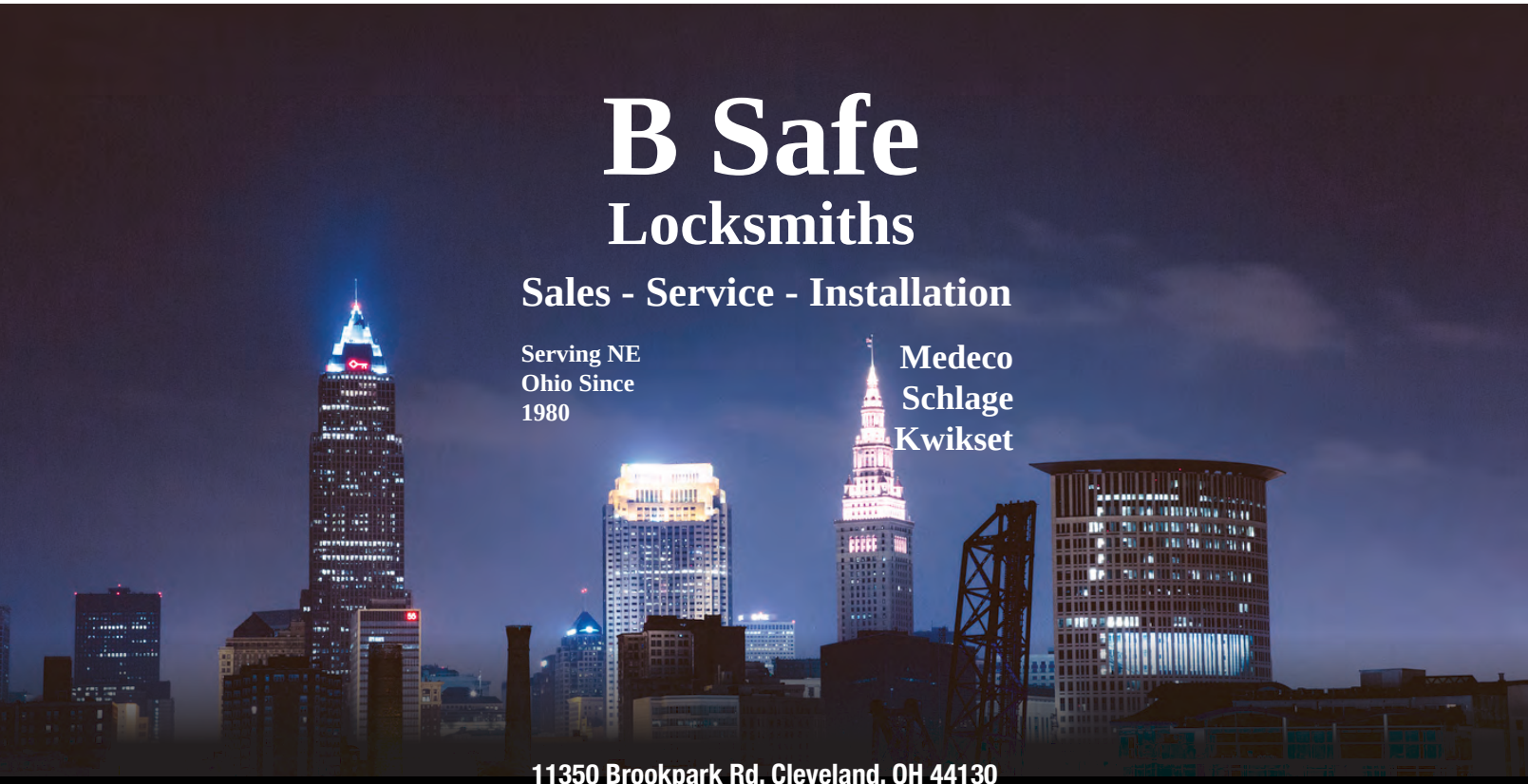

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55

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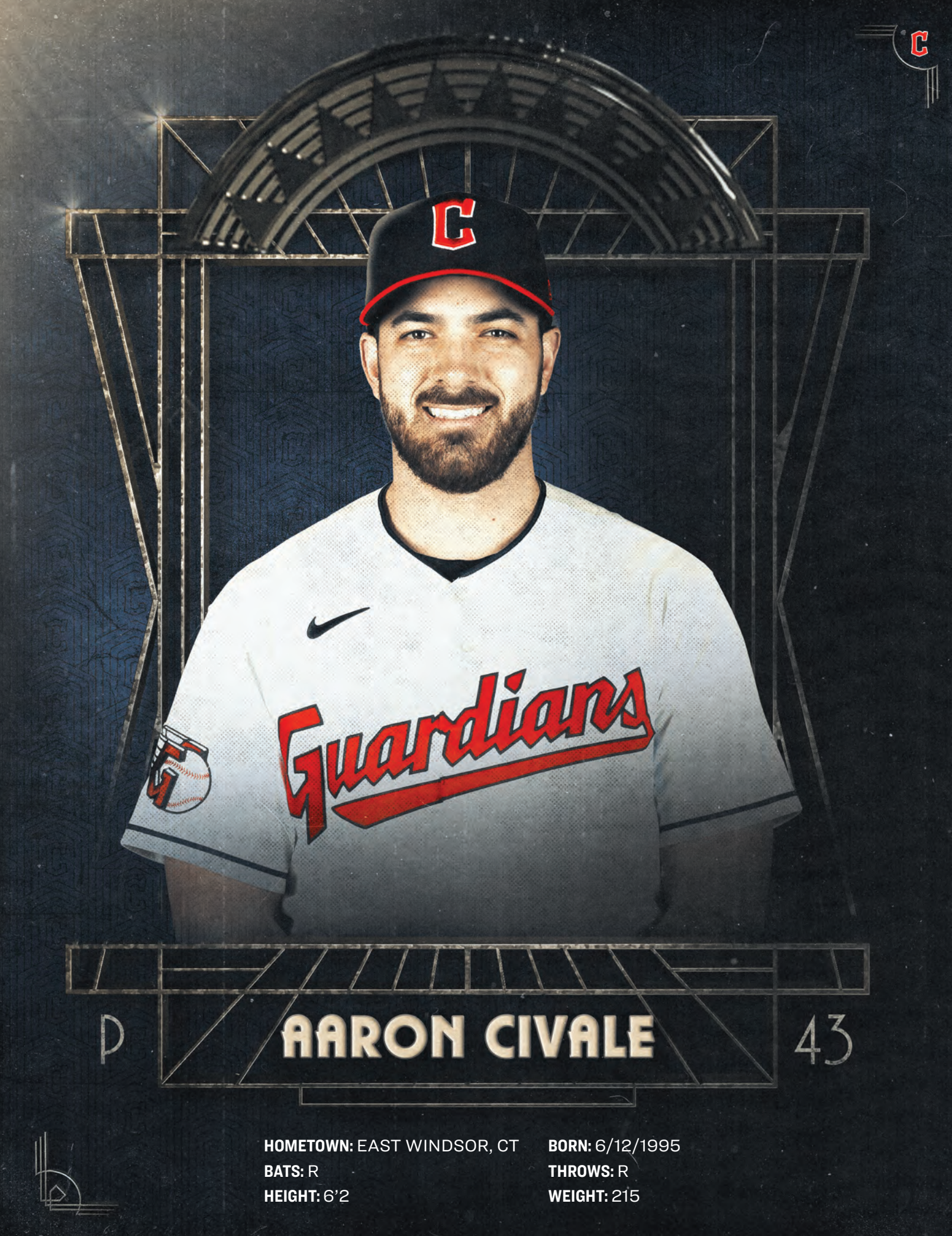
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AARON CIVALE
43
HOMETOWN: EAST WINDSOR, CT
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THROWS: R
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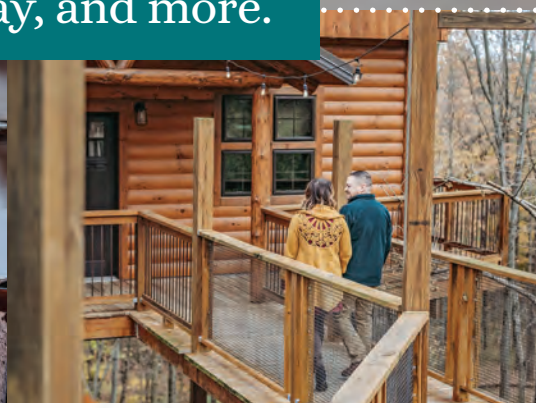

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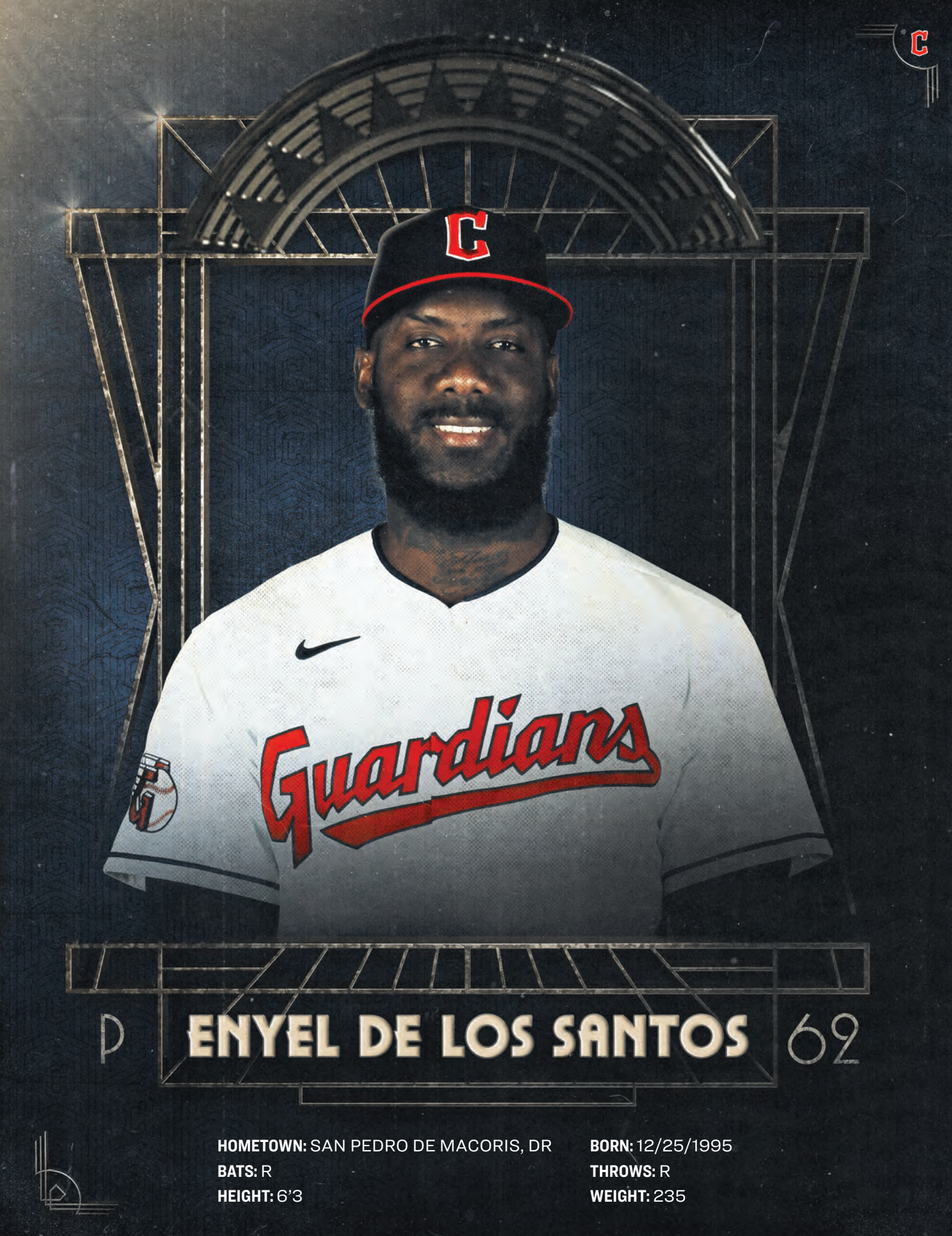

P **ENYEL DE LOS SANTOS** 62

HOMETOWN: SAN PEDRO DE MACORIS, DR
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 6'3

BORN: 12/25/1995
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 235

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1F

ANDRÉS GIMÉNEZ

#0

HOMETOWN: BARQUISIMETO, VZ
BATS: L
HEIGHT: 5’11

BORN: 9/04/1998
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 161

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Of **OSCAR GONZALEZ** 39

HOMETOWN: SABANA GRANDE DE PALENQUE, DR
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 6’4

BORN: 1/10/1998
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 240

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P

SAM HENTGES

31

HOMETOWN: SHOREVIEW, MN
BATS: L
HEIGHT: 6’6

BORN: 7/18/1996
THROWS: L
WEIGHT: 245

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P

JAMES KARINCHAK

99

HOMETOWN: NEWBURGH, NY
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 6’3

BORN: 9/22/1995
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 215

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FROM BRAIN INJURY

WHAT IS A CONCUSSION?

A concussion is a brain injury after a fall or hit to the head that affects how your brain works.

SIGNS/SYMPTOMS

Headache
Double or blurry vision
Vomiting or nausea
Confusion or trouble focusing

For a complete list of symptoms, visit us online.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE A CONCUSSION

Tell your coach, parent, or athletic trainer if you think you or one of your teammates may have a concussion. You or your teammates won't play your best if not feeling well, so it's important to report symptoms.

Ohio's Return-to-Play law (ORC 3313.539 or ORC 3314.03) requires that Ohio youth athletes who are suspected o sustaining a concussion, must be removed from practice or play. More information is available at https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3313.539

Ohio Department of Health

OHIO INJURY PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

This work is funded either in whole or in part by a grant awarded by the Ohio Department of Health as a sub-award of a grant issued by Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant under the Injury Prevention Program by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, grant award number 1 NB01OT009414-01-00.

Of **STEVEN KWAN** 38

HOMETOWN: LOS GATOS, CA
BATS: L
HEIGHT: 5’9

BORN: 9/05/1997
THROWS: L
WEIGHT: 170

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P

TRISTON MCKENZIE

24

HOMETOWN: BROOKLYN, NY
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 6’5

BORN: 8/02/1997
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 165

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P

ELI MORGAN

49

HOMETOWN: RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 5’10

BORN: 5/13/1996
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 190

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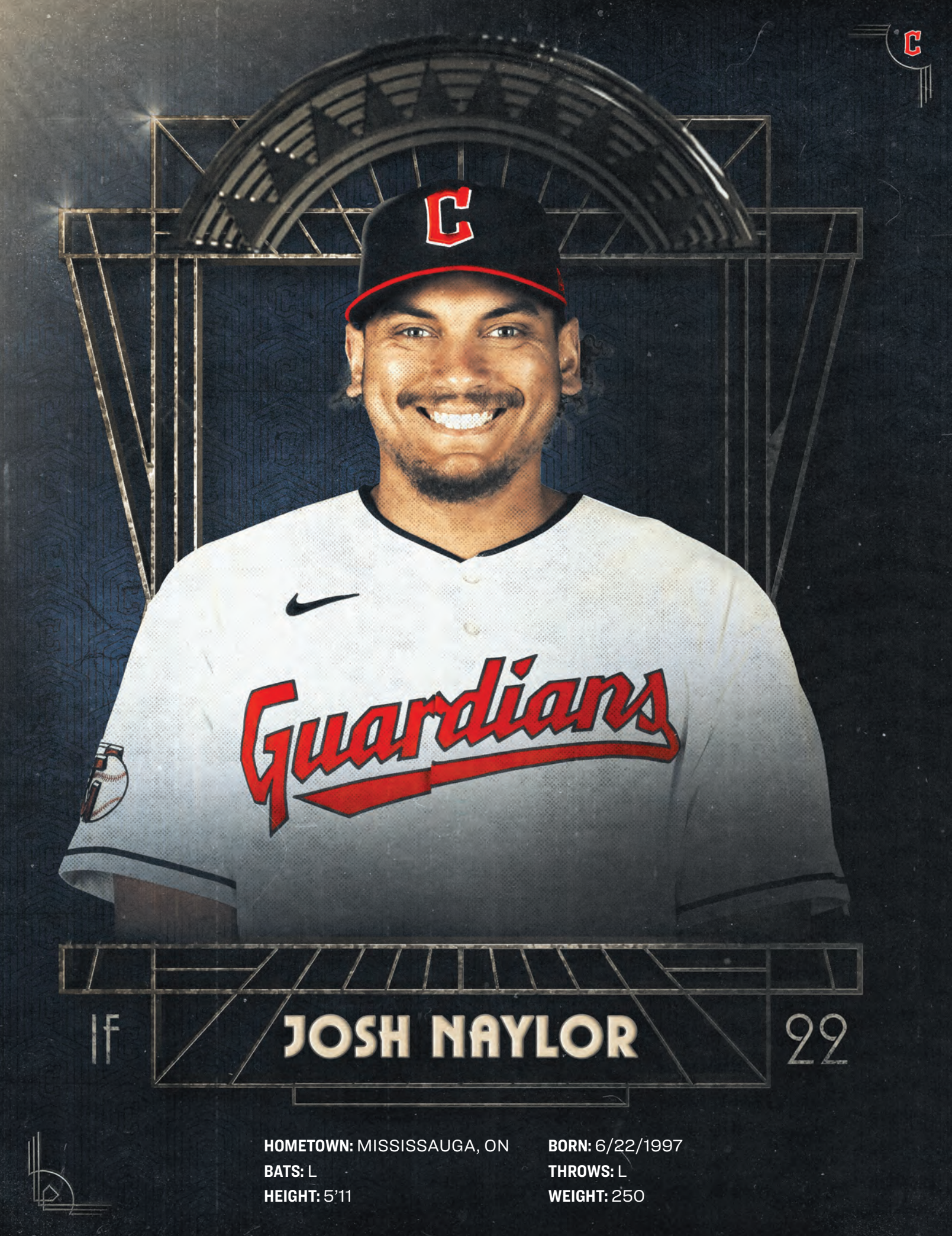
1F
JOSH NAYLOR
22
HOMETOWN: MISSISSAUGA, ON
BATS: L
HEIGHT: 5'11
BORN: 6/22/1997
THROWS: L
WEIGHT: 250

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P

ZACH PLESAC

34

HOMETOWN: CROWN POINT, IN
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 6’3

BORN: 1/21/1995
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 220

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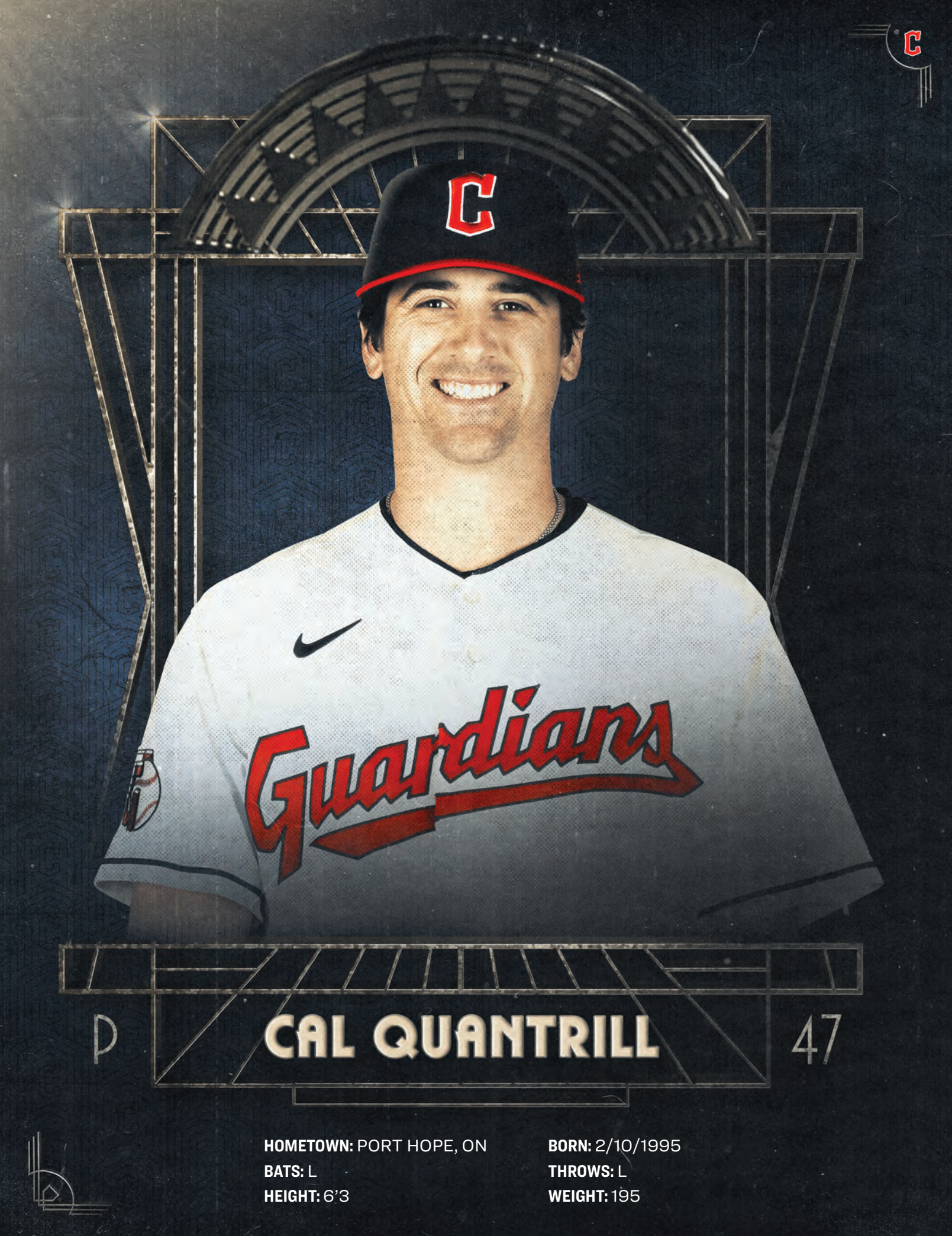
P
CAL QUANTRILL
47
HOMETOWN: PORT HOPE, ON
BATS: L
HEIGHT: 6'3
BORN: 2/10/1995
THROWS: L
WEIGHT: 195

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IF

JOSÉ RAMÍREZ

11

HOMETOWN: BANI, DR
BATS: S
HEIGHT: 5’9

BORN: 9/17/1992
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 190

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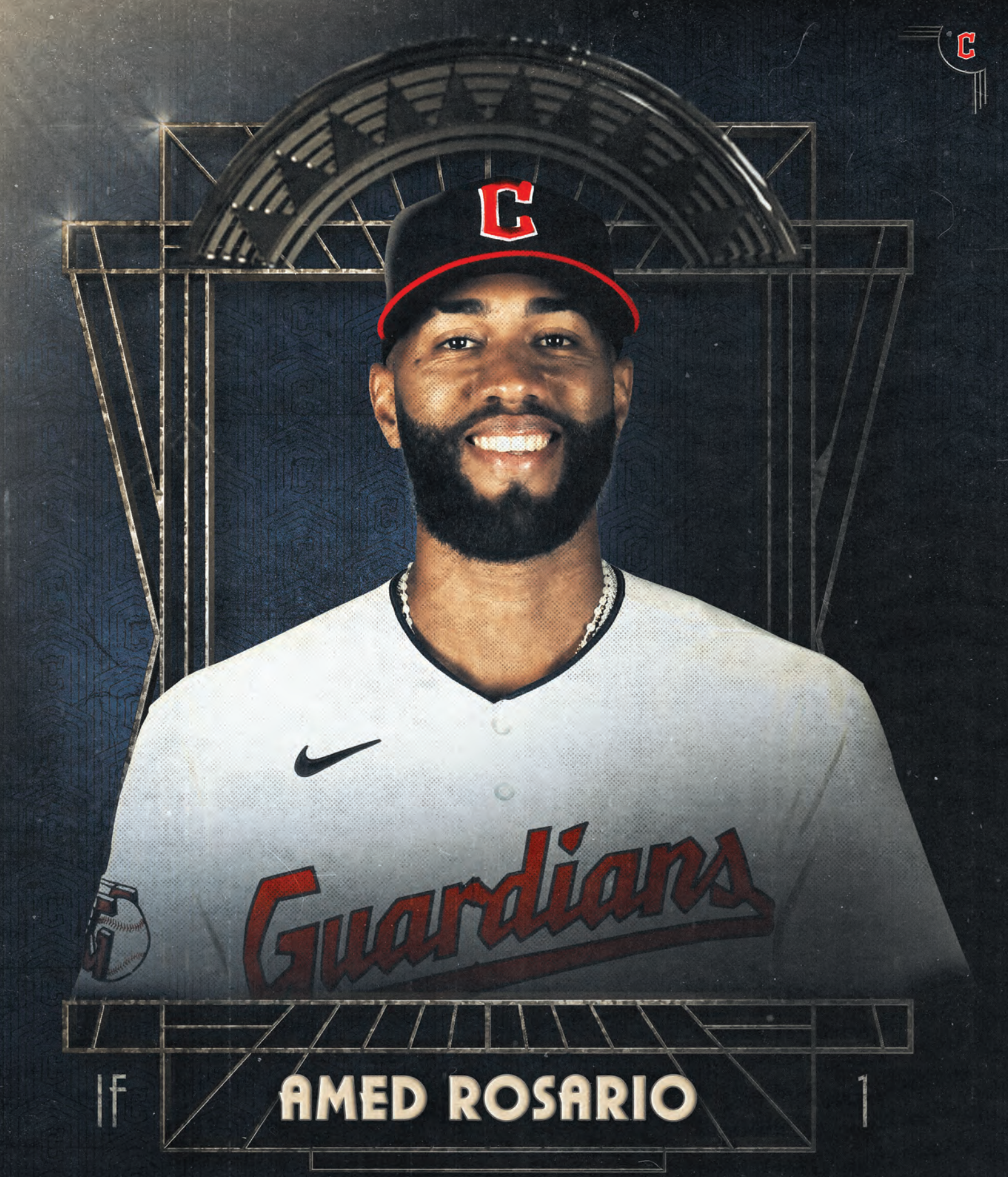

IF

AMED ROSARIO

1

HOMETOWN: SANTO DOMINGO CENTRO, DR
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 6’2

BORN: 11/20/1995
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 190

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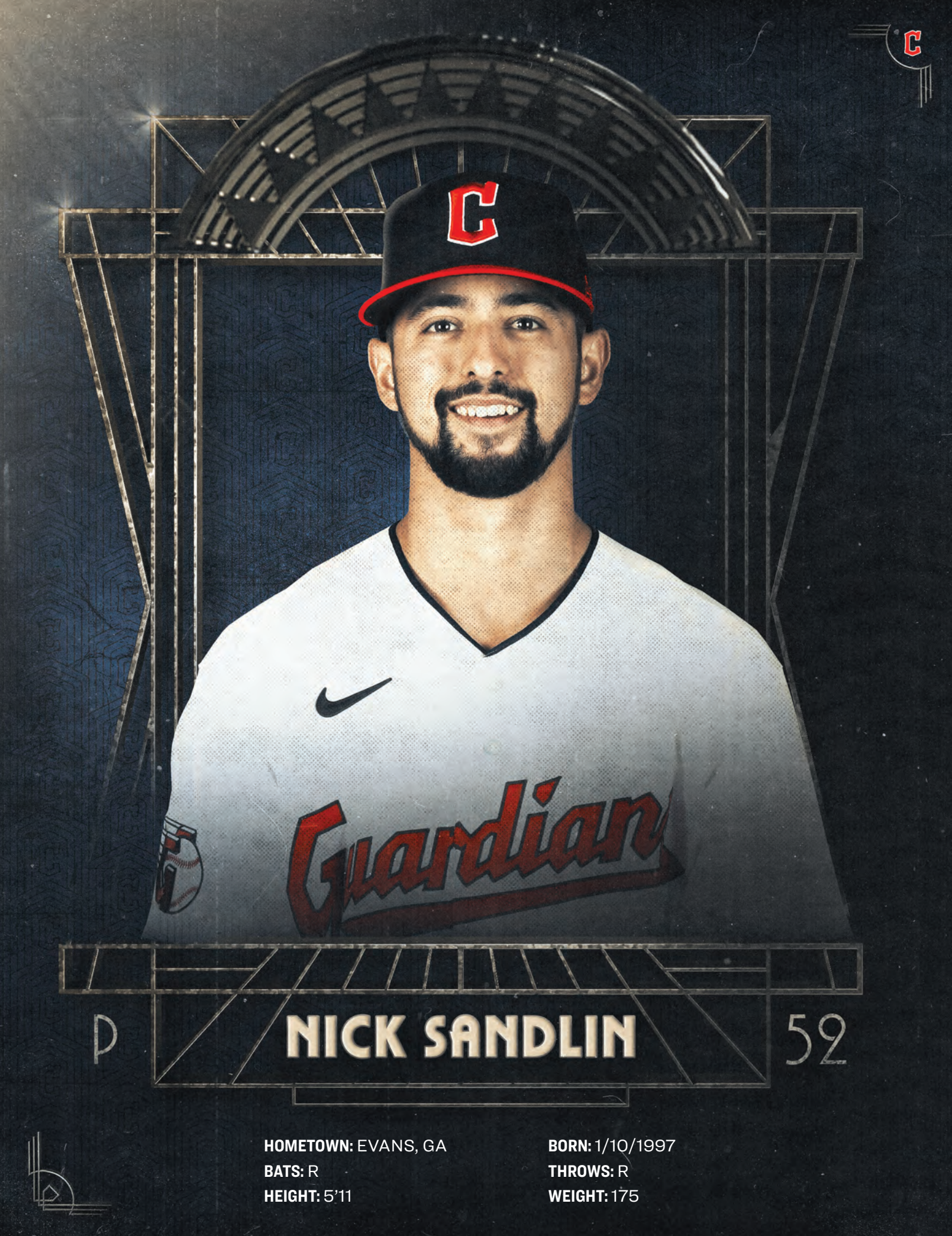
P
NICK SANDLIN
59
HOMETOWN: EVANS, GA
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 5'11
BORN: 1/10/1997
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 175

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P

TREVOR STEPHAN

37

HOMETOWN: MAGNOLIA, TX
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 6’5

BORN: 11/25/1995
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 225

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OF **MYLES STRAW** 7

HOMETOWN: GARDEN GROVE, CA
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 5'10
BORN: 10/17/1994
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 178

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HOMETOWN: CAPE CORAL, FL
BATS: R
HEIGHT: 6’2

BORN: 3/25/1991
THROWS: R
WEIGHT: 235

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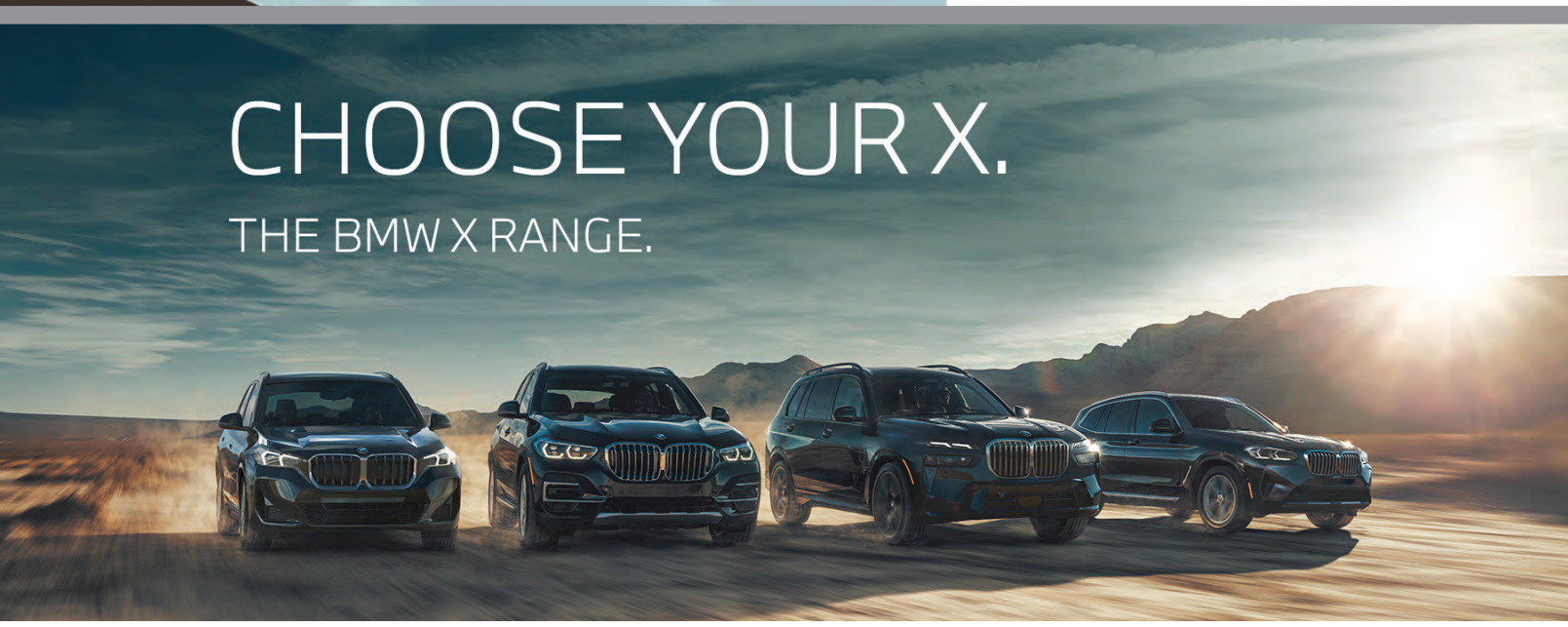

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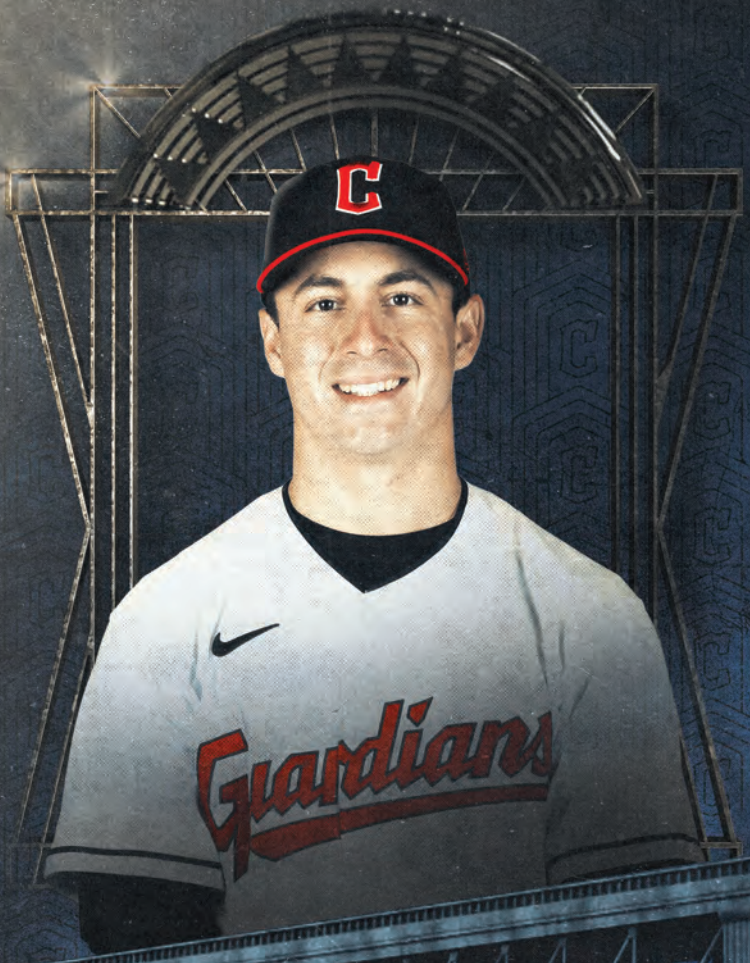
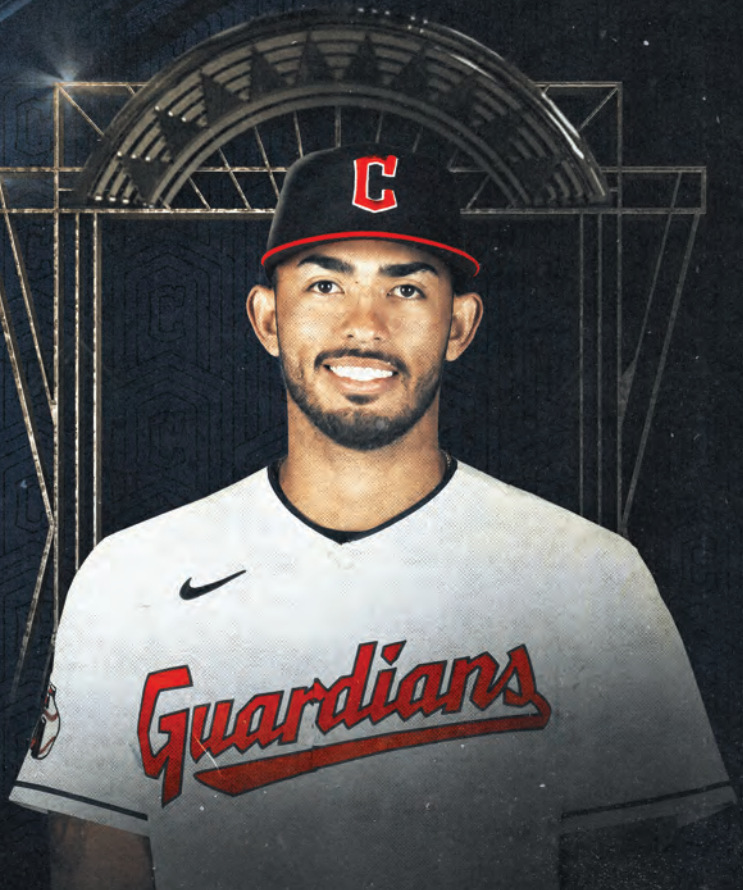


P **LOGAN ALLEN** 88

HOMETOWN: ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, FL
BORN: 9/05/1998
BATS: R **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6'0 **WEIGHT:** 190

IF **GABRIEL ARIAS** 8

HOMETOWN: LA VICTORIA, VZ
BORN: 2/27/2000
BATS: R **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'1 **WEIGHT:** 217



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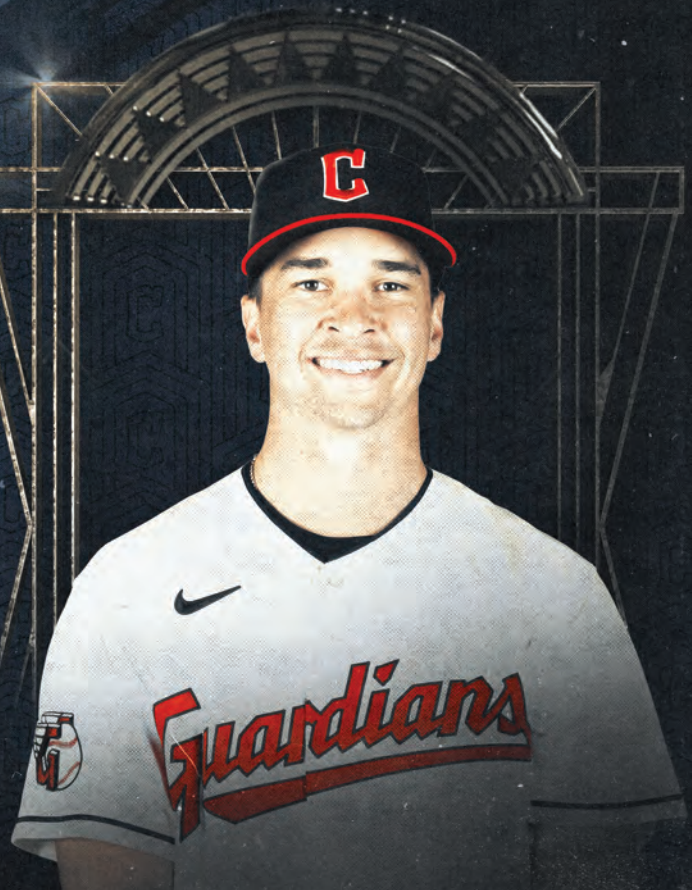
P **PEYTON BATTENFIELD** 72

HOMETOWN: TULSA, OK
BORN: 8/10/1997
BATS: R **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'4 **WEIGHT:** 224

Of **WILL BRENNAN** 63

HOMETOWN: COLORADO SPRINGS, CO
BORN: 2/02/1998
BATS: L **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6'0 **WEIGHT:** 200



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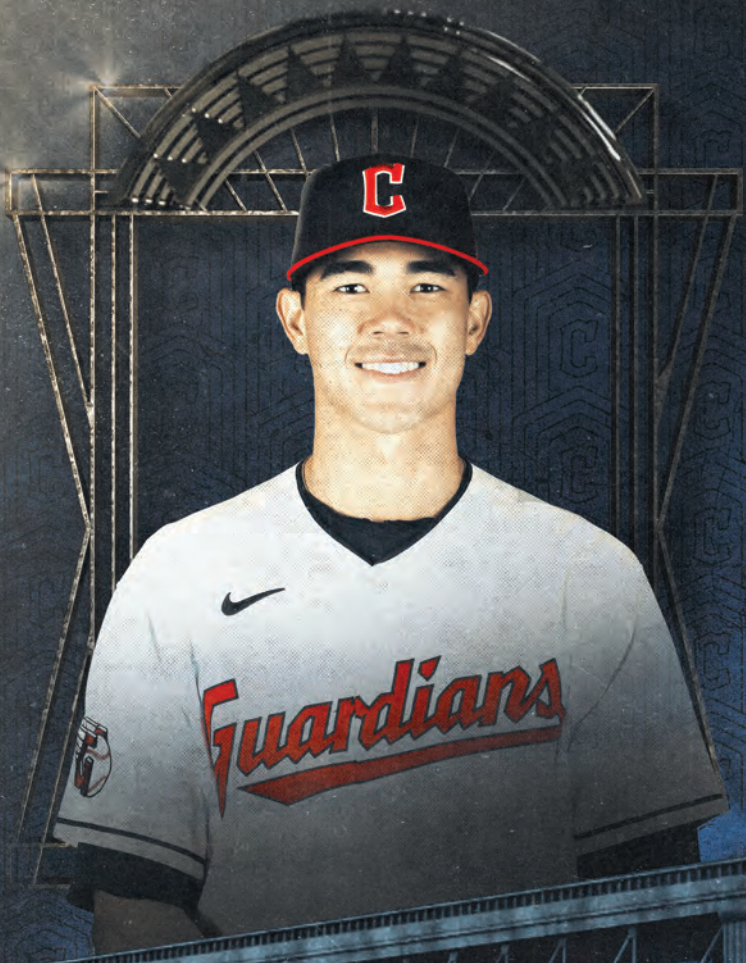

P **JOEY CANTILLO** 68

HOMETOWN: KAILUA, HI
BORN: 12/18/1999
BATS: L **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6'4 **WEIGHT:** 225

C **ZACH COLLINS** 32

HOMETOWN: PEMBROKE PINES, FL
BORN: 2/06/1995
BATS: L **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'3 **WEIGHT:** 220

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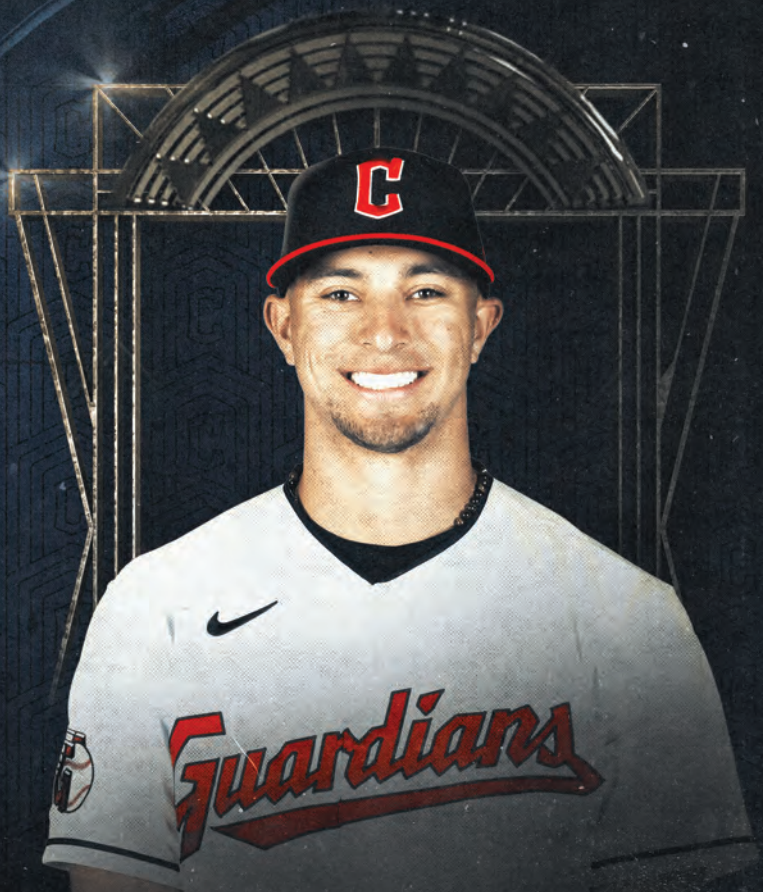
P **XZAVION CURRY** 71

HOMETOWN: ORANGEBURG, SC
BORN: 7/27/1998
BATS: R **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'0 **WEIGHT:** 195

IF **TYLER FREEMAN** 2

HOMETOWN: RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA
BORN: 5/21/1999
BATS: R **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'0 **WEIGHT:** 190



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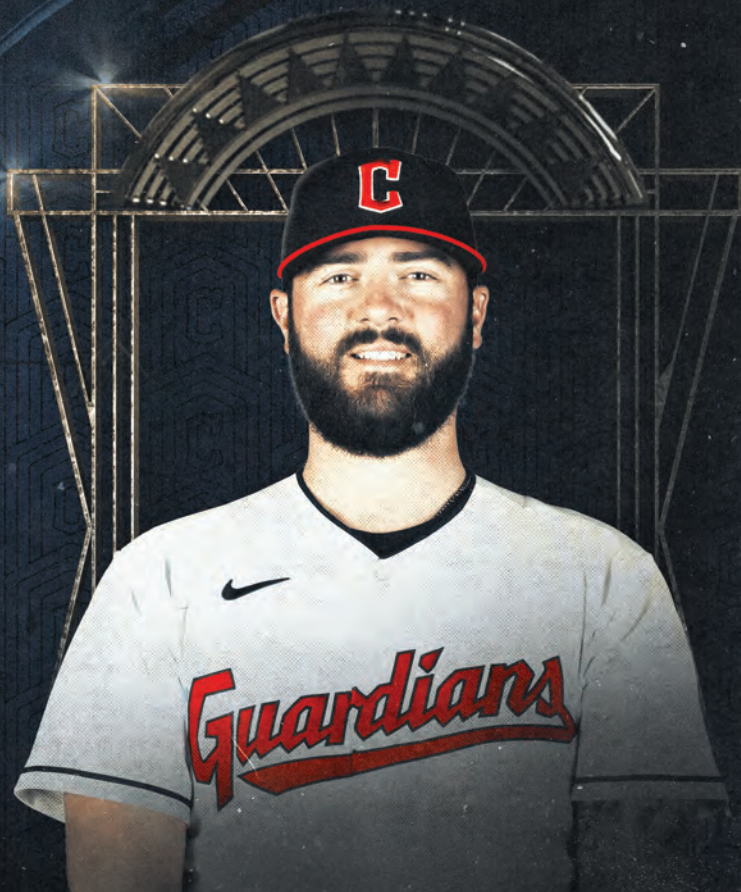
P **HUNTER GADDIS** 70

HOMETOWN: CANTON, GA
BORN: 4/09/1998
BATS: R **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'6 **WEIGHT:** 260

C **CAM GALLAGHER** 35

HOMETOWN: LANCASTER, PA
BORN: 12/06/1992
BATS: R **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'3 **WEIGHT:** 230



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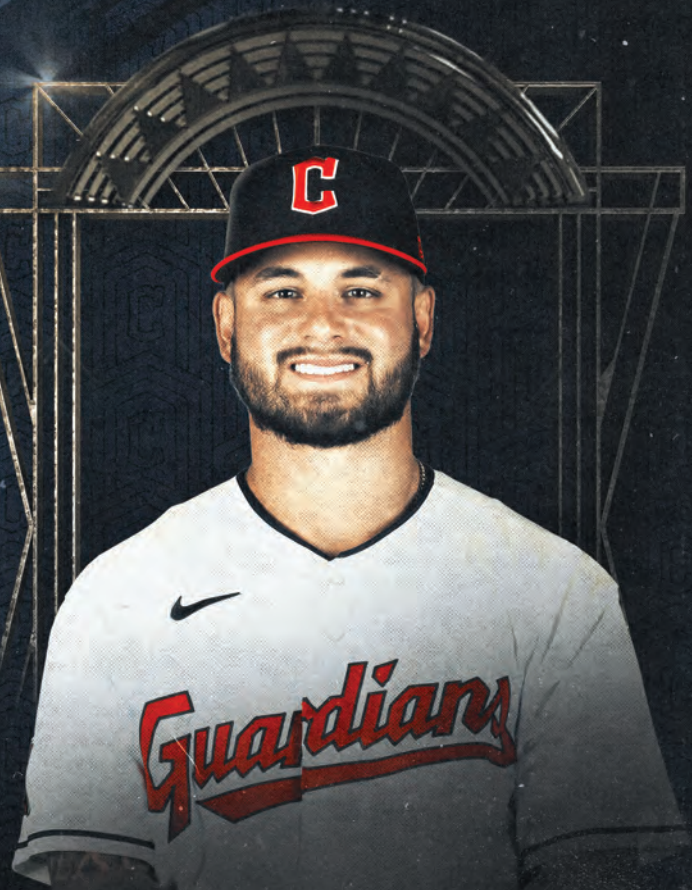
P **TIM HERRIN** 73

HOMETOWN: HIALEAH, FL
BORN: 10/08/1996
BATS: L **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6'6 **WEIGHT:** 230

C **BRYAN LAVASTIDA** 27

HOMETOWN: HIALEAH, FL
BORN: 11/27/1998
BATS: R **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'0 **WEIGHT:** 200



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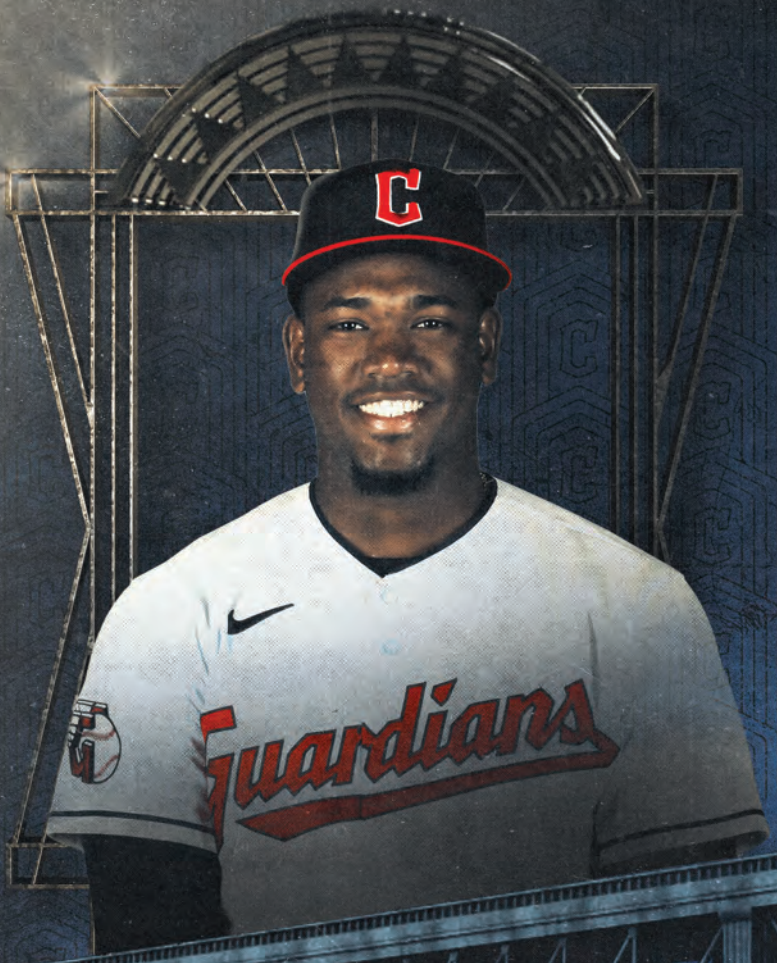
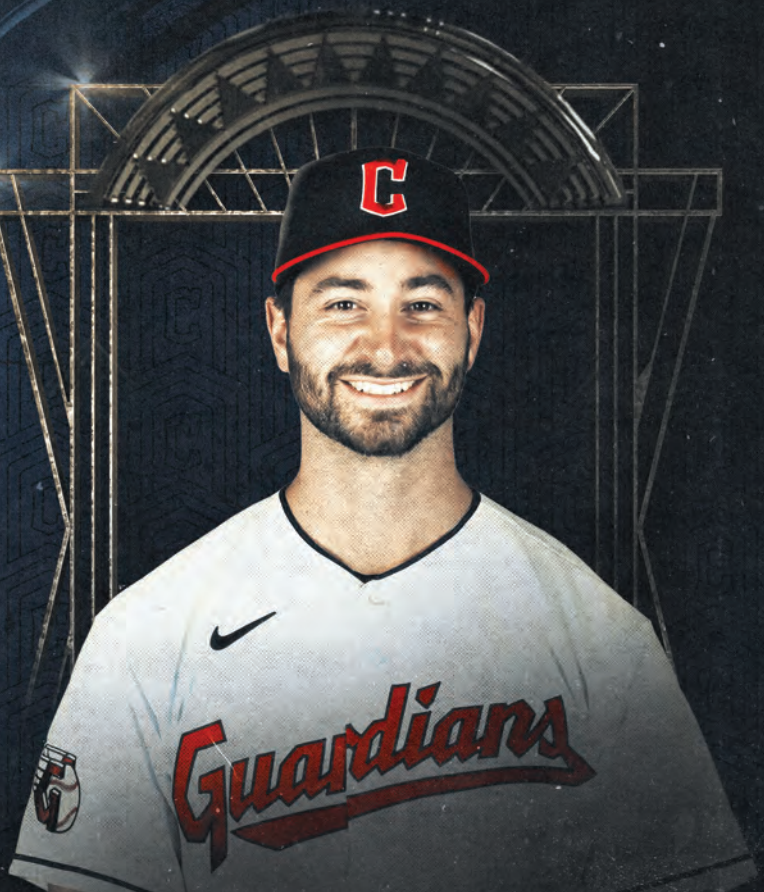


lf **ANGEL MARTINEZ** 79

HOMETOWN: SANTO DOMINGO, DR
BORN: 1/27/2002
BATS: S **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'0 **WEIGHT:** 165

p **CODY MORRIS** 36

HOMETOWN: COLUMBIA, SC
BORN: 11/04/196
BATS: R **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'4 **WEIGHT:** 205



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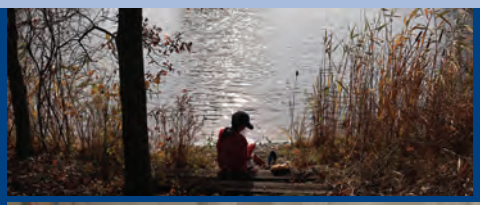

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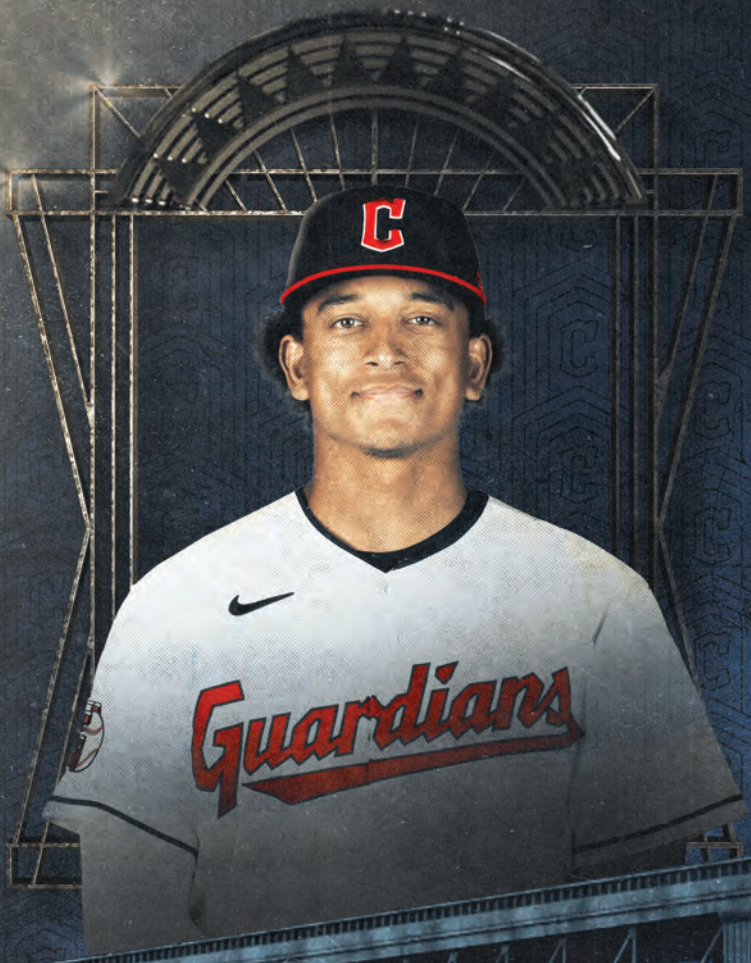

C **BO NAYLOR** 23

HOMETOWN: MISSISSAUGA, ON
BORN: 2/21/2000
BATS: L **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'0 **WEIGHT:** 205

1F **JHONKENSY NOEL** 78

HOMETOWN: SAN PEDRO DE MACORIS, DR
BORN: 7/15/2001
BATS: R **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'3 **WEIGHT:** 250

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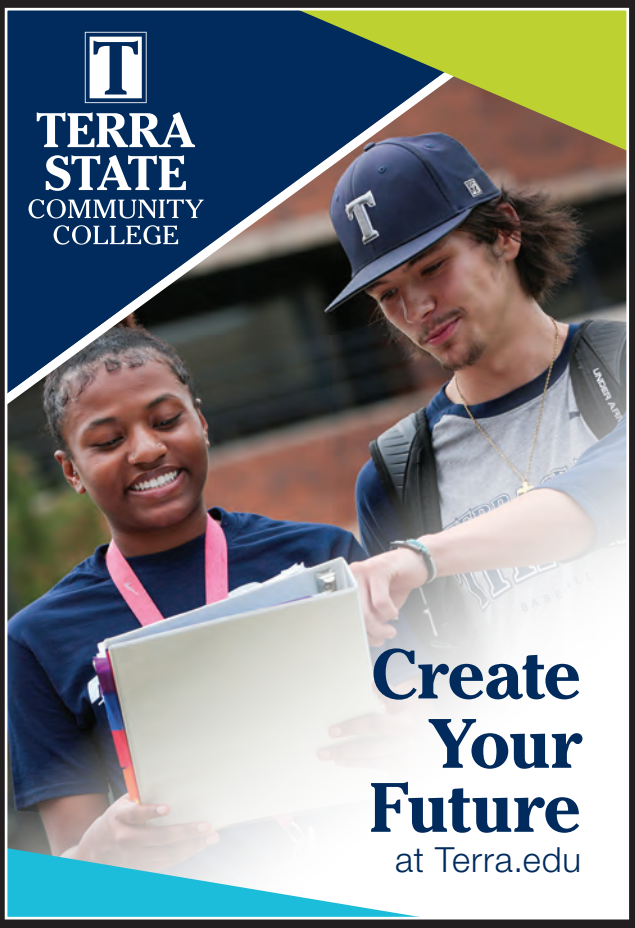

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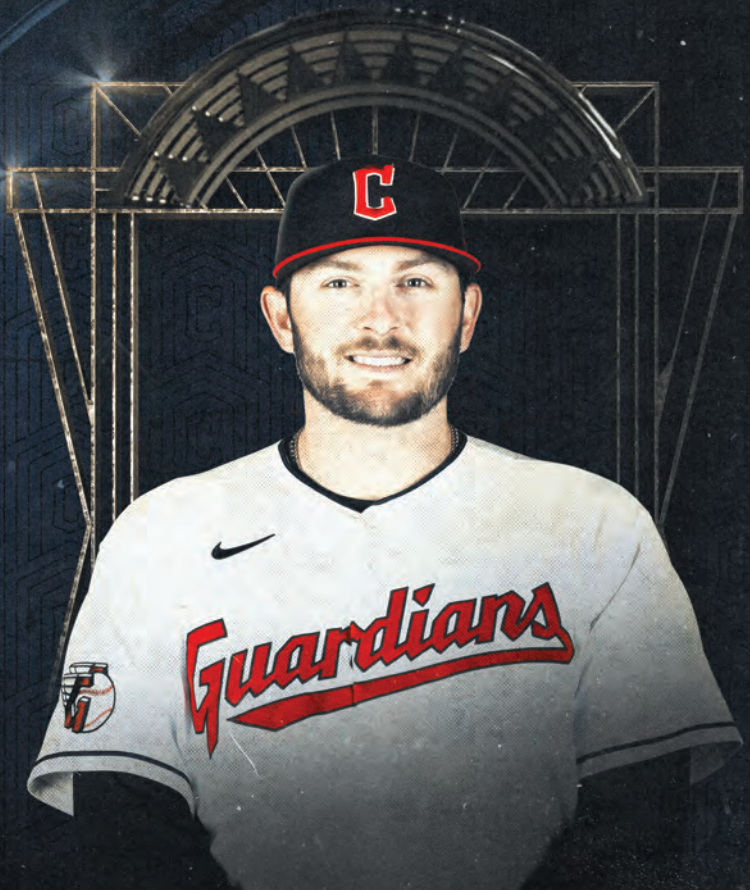
OF RICHIE PALACIOS 9

HOMETOWN: BROOKLYN, NY
BORN: 5/16/1997
BATS: L **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 5'10 **WEIGHT:** 180

P KONNOR PILKINGTON 45

HOMETOWN: PASCAGOULA, MS
BORN: 9/12/1997
BATS: L **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6'3 **WEIGHT:** 240



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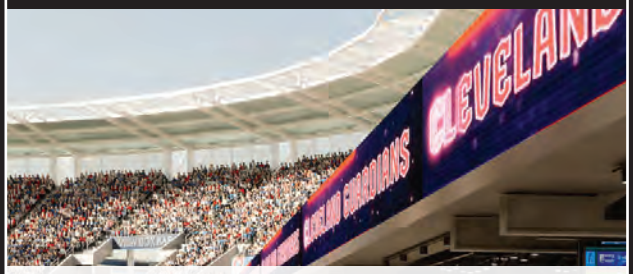

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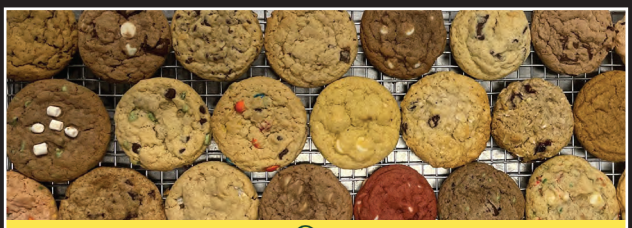
INDEPENDENCE EXCAVATING

Of ROMAN QUINN 4

HOMETOWN: PORT ST JOE, FL
BORN: 5/14/1993
BATS: S **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 5'10 **WEIGHT:** 175

If BRAYAN ROCCHIO 66

HOMETOWN: CARACAS, VZ
BORN: 1/13/2001
BATS: S **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 5'10 **WEIGHT:** 170



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lf **JOSE TENA** 75

HOMETOWN: SAN CRISTOBAL, DR
BORN: 3/20/2001
BATS: L **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 5'11 **WEIGHT:** 190

p **TOUKI TOUSSAINT** 56

HOMETOWN: PEMBROKE PINES, FL
BORN: 6/20/1996
BATS: R **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 6'3 **WEIGHT:** 215

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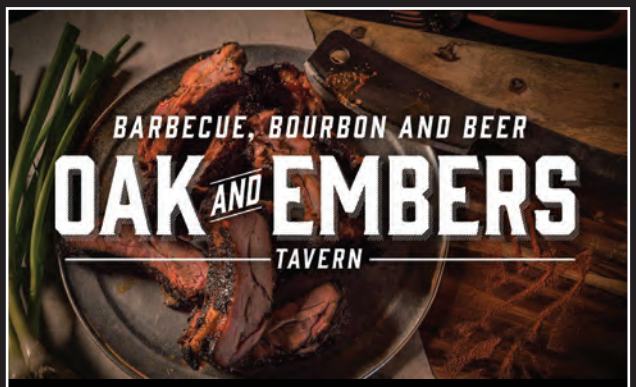

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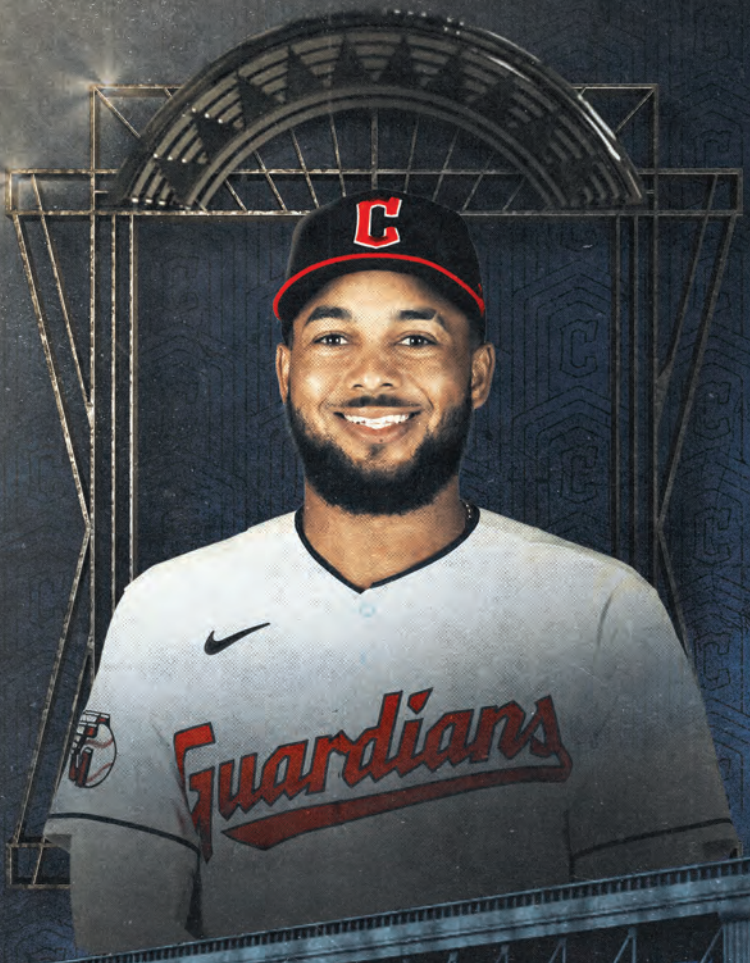

Of GEORGE VALERA 76

HOMETOWN: QUEENS, NY
BORN: 11/13/2000
BATS: L **THROWS:** L
HEIGHT: 6'0 **WEIGHT:** 195

C MEIBRYS VILORIA 46

HOMETOWN: CARTAGENA, COL
BORN: 2/15/1997
BATS: L **THROWS:** R
HEIGHT: 5'11 **WEIGHT:** 225

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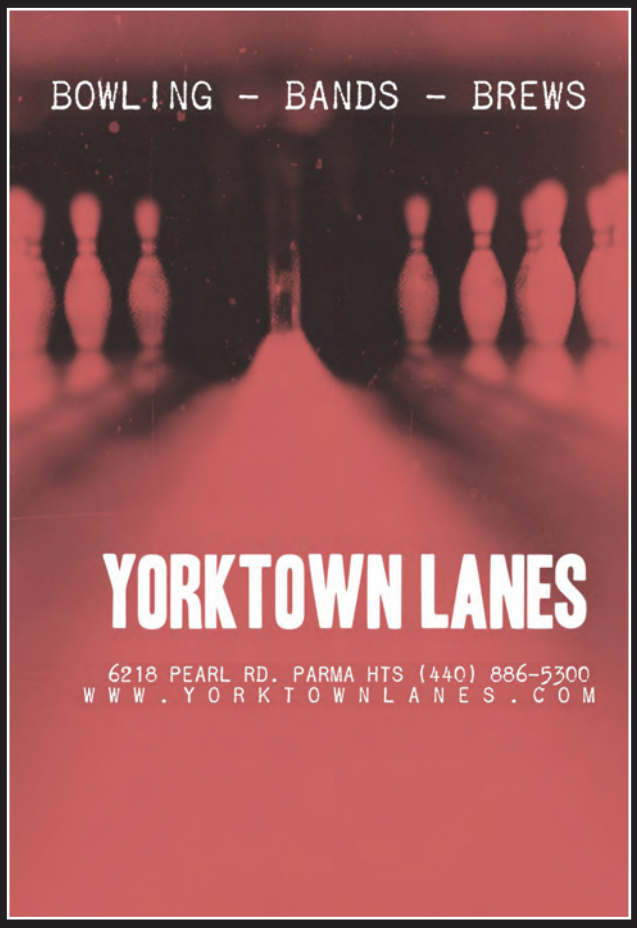
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SANDY ALOMAR JR. 15

FIRST BASE COACH

Entering his fourteenth season on the Guardians coaching staff since 2010. Named First Base Coach on November 17, 2009, was 1B coach in 2010-11, Bench Coach in 2012-13. Also instructs and mentors Guardians catchers.

CARL WILLIS 51

PITCHING COACH

In his sixth season on Terry Francona's staff after October 26, 2017 hiring. Overall this is his ninth season as Guardians Pitching Coach and 15th overall at the Major League level.

JOE TORRES 86

ASST. PITCHING COACH

Torres enters his second season on the Major League coaching staff, his sixth overall in the Guardians organization. Spent two seasons (2020-21) as the organizational Pitching Coordinator

DEMARLO HALE 30

BENCH COACH

Enters his third season as the Cleveland Bench Coach, re-joining Terry Francona after serving on his Boston Red Sox staff, 2006-201

MIKE SARBAUGH 16

THIRD BASE COACH

Has been a member of the Guardians organization since 1990 as a Minor League player, coach and manager and is beginning his seventh season on the Major League staff.

CHRIS VALAIKA 13

HITTING COACH

Named Major League Hitting Coach on Nov. 5, 2021. Was the Assistant Major League Hitting Coach with the Chicago Cubs in 2021.

C VICTOR RODRIGUEZ 60

ASST. HITTING COACH

Is in his sixth season on Terry Francona's coaching staff after being name to the position on November 8. Spent five seasons in the same position with the Boston Red Sox from 2013-2017

C RIGO BELTRAN 83

BULLPEN COACH

Beltrán begins his first season as the club's Major League Bullpen Coach after spending four seasons (2019-2022) between Triple-A Columbus or the club's Alt. Site...A total of 19 pitchers made their ML debuts during his tenure at AAA/Alt. Site since 2019...Spent 2018 at AA Akron and was the Pitching Coach at High-A Lynchburg from 2015-2017.

C ARMANDO CAMACARO 64

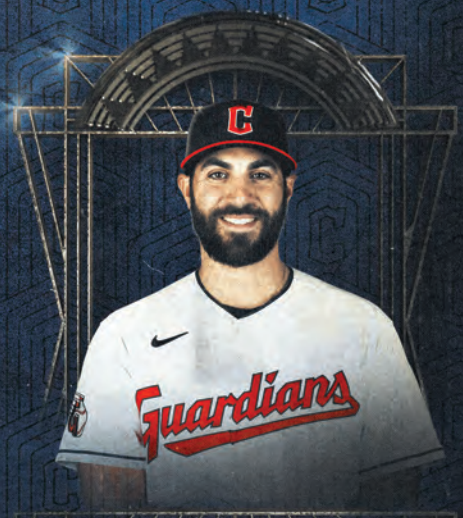
BULLPEN CATCHER

Begins his fourteenth season on the Guardians coaching staff; Duties include catching starting and relief pitchers and throwing batting practice along with assisting Guardians positional coaches with functions relative to their positions.

C RICKY PACIONE 82

BULLPEN CATCHER

Begins his tenth season on the Guardians coaching staff; Duties include catching starting and relief pitchers and throwing batting practice along with assisting Guardians positional coaches with functions relative to their positions with the club.



C JASON ESPOSITO 85

RUN PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Jason Esposito begins his first season as Run Production Coordinator, replacing Justin Toole in December 2022 following Toole's departure to the Seattle organization. The Bethany, CT native spent the last two seasons (2021-22) as the Triple-A Columbus Hitting Coach after spending the 2020 campaign at the Alternate Training Site.

C JT MAGUIRE 84

OUTFIELD COACH

JT Maguire, 37, is currently in his first season on the coaching staff, overseeing the club's outfielders and baserunning. JT entered the organization in 2019, serving as a Bench Coach for the Arizona Rookie League team before serving as a coach at the Lake County Alternate Site in 2020.

TRAINING STAFF

THE OFFICIAL YEARBOOK OF THE CLEVELAND GUARDIANS

LONNIE SOLOFF

Lonnie Soloff is in his 20th season with the Cleveland Guardians and his ninth leading Medical Services. He was elevated to Senior Vice President, Medical Services prior to the 2022 campaign.

JAMES QUINLAN

Begins his tenth season as the Head Athletic Trainer with the Cleveland Guardians after spending the last two campaigns in the same position with the Tribe's Triple-A affiliate, the Columbus Clippers.

JEFF DESJARDINS

Entering his fourteenth season as an Assistant Athletic Trainer on the Major League staff and his 16th season in the Guardians organization after nine seasons as a minor league athletic trainer in the Cleveland Guardians Player Development System from 2001 to 2009.

CHAD WOLFE

Enters his fifth season as the club's Assistant Athletic Trainer and is entering his 18th overall season as an Athletic Trainer in the organization.

JOE KESSLER

Begins his fourteenth season as the Major League Strength and Conditioning Coach after being named to the position on January 8, 2010. Kessler originally joined the Guardians organization in March of 2009.

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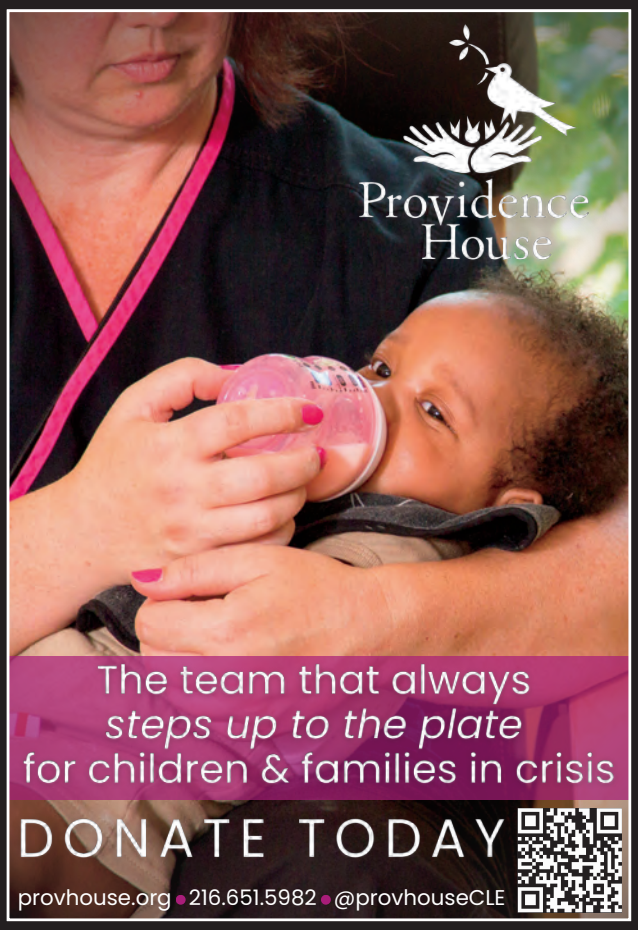
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IN 2023, THE GUARDIANS DELIVER AN

ALL-STAR LINEUP

IN THE RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCAST BOOTHS.

Tom Hamilton begins his 34th season in the Cleveland Guardians radio broadcast booth. "The Voice of the Guardians" will be joined this season by Jim Rosenhaus, who is entering his 17th season as a member of the Indians radio broadcast team.

On cable, the Bally Sports Great Lakes broadcast team includes Rick Manning and Matt Underwood. WKYC returns as the over-the-air broadcast television home for the Guardians as well, including Opening Day and other select games all simulcast with Bally Sports Great Lakes.

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WAKR-AM	Akron, OH	1590
WFUN-AM	Ashtabula, OH	970
WBLL-AM	Bellefontaine, OH	1390
WHBC-AM	Canton, OH	1480
WTAM – AM	Cleveland, OH	1100
WDLR-AM	Delaware, OH	1550
WJER-AM	Dover, OH	1450
WEOL-AM	Elyria, OH	930
WFIN-AM	Findlay, OH	1330
WFOB-AM	Fostoria, OH	1430
WMAN-AM	Mansfield, OH	1400
WMRN-AM	Marion, OH	1490
WMVO-AM	Mount Vernon, OH	1300
WLEC-AM	Sandusky, OH	1450
WSPD-AM	Toledo, OH	1370
WBTC-AM	Uhrichsville, OH	1540
WKBN-AM	Youngstown, OH	570

OHIO / FM

WAKR-FM	Akron, OH	93.5
WBNV-FM	Barnesville, OH	93.5
WBLL-FM	Bellefontaine, OH	106.9
WBNO-FM	Bryan, OH	100.9
WQEL-FM	Bucyrus, OH	92.7
WMMS-FM	Cleveland, OH	100.7
WTAM-FM	Cleveland, OH	106.9
WBNS-FM	Columbus, OH	105.7
WTOH-FM	Columbus, OH	95.9
WDLR-FM	Delaware, OH	92.9
WJER-FM	Dover, OH	100.9
WEOL-FM	Elyria, OH	100.3
WFIN-FM	Findlay, OH	95.5
WFOB-FM	Fostoria, OH	105.7
WWSR	Lima, OH	93.1
WMAN-FM	Mansfield, OH	98.3
WJAW-FM	McConnelsville, OH	100.9
WMVO-FM	Mount Vernon, OH	100.9
WLKR-FM	Norwalk, OH	95.3
WLEC-FM	Sandusky, OH	93.5
WSPD-FM	Toledo, OH	92.9
WBTC-FM	Uhrichsville, OH	101.9
WQKT-FM	Wooster, OH	104.5

PENNSYLVANIA

WRIE-AM	Erie, PA	1260
WRIE-FM	Erie, PA	96.3

New York / AM

WKSN-AM	Jamestown, NY	1340

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I want to be a
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Last year, Sam was too sick to dream.
He has Primary Immunodeficiency or PI.
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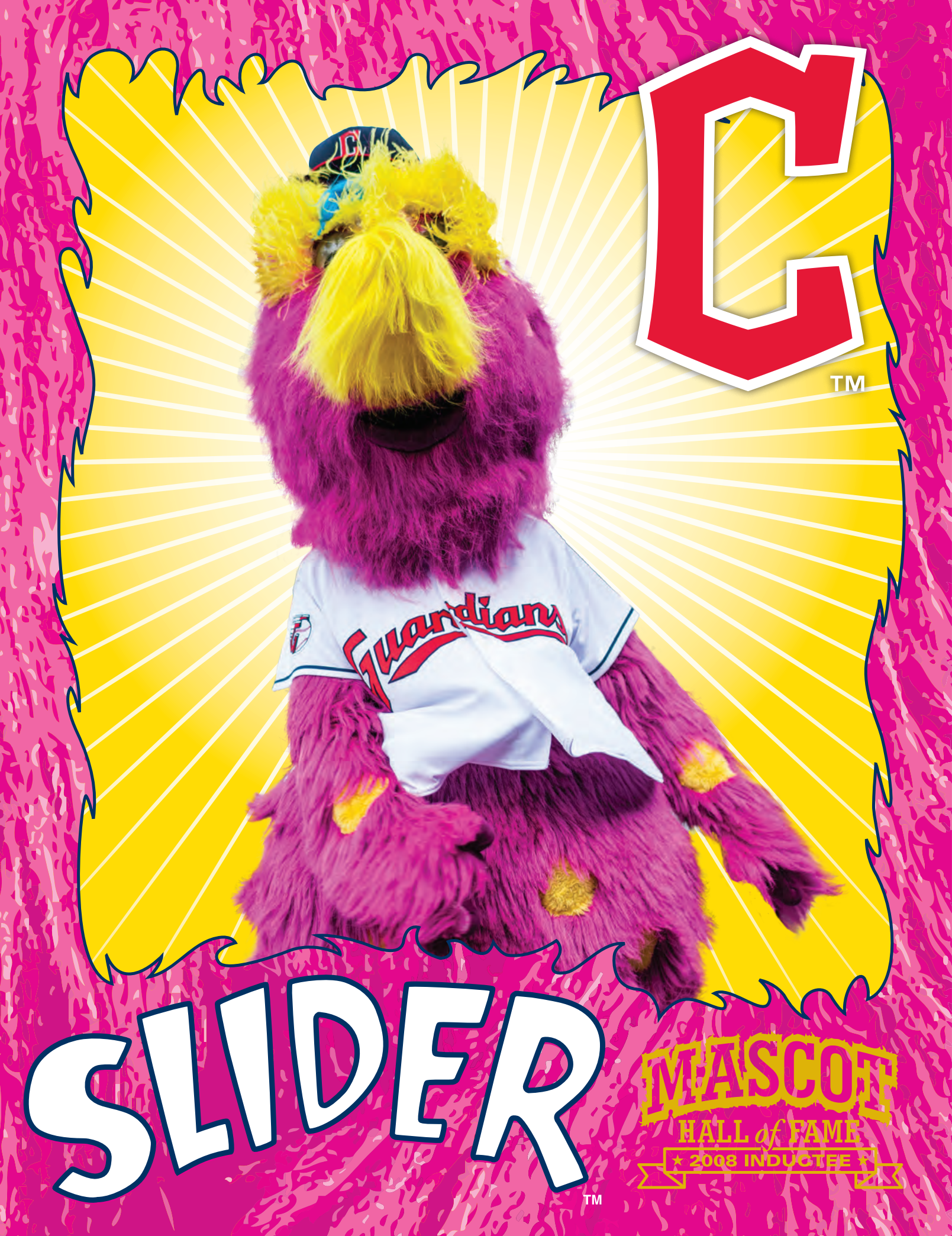
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
I have a Chance!♡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Go to **arborday.org** and check out Nature Explore. There, you can download a free Nature Explore Families Club kit and learn about other Nature Explore resources for connecting children with nature. Whether you live in the city, the country, or anywhere in between, go online to **arborday.org** and start seeing what a difference nature can make.

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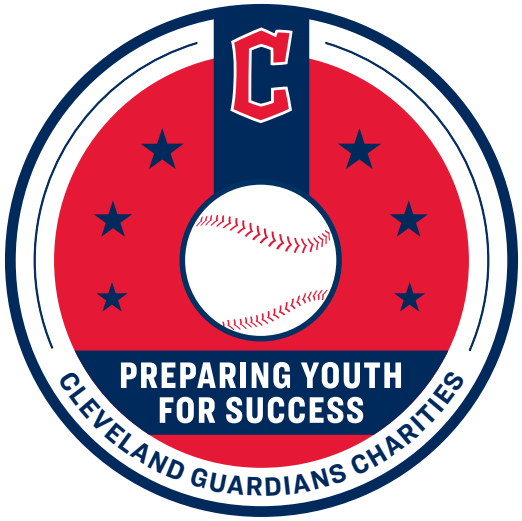

CLEVELAND GUARDIANS™ IN THE COMMUNITY

While the Guardians take great pride on the baseball field, the team is also committed to the community off the field and works to make a difference in the lives of Clevelanders.

Cleveland Guardians Charities (CGC) aims to strengthen youth through service initiatives that focus on education, health and fitness. CGC has donated over $11 million to youth-oriented agencies and organizations throughout Northeast Ohio – impacting more than 20,000 children in the area every year. CGC strives to prepare youth for successful lives, improve the quality of youth baseball and softball programs in Cleveland, and create a sustainable plan for youth baseball. CGC has sustained partnerships with three beneficiary organizations to achieve these goals:

- **CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT**
  Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) provides more than 300 students with the opportunity to play baseball and softball as an extracurricular sport in high school. Cleveland Guardians Charities supports CMSD baseball and softball programs by funding uniforms and equipment, and by providing coaching clinics.

- **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CLEVELAND**
  The Cleveland Guardians support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland through financial, in-kind and volunteer efforts. In 2022, CGC provided financial support for youth education programs including reading initiatives and scholarships.

- **PLAYBALL CLE**
  supports baseball and softball being played in Cleveland through Cleveland City Rec and eight other leagues and organizations in greater Cleveland.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CGC AND HOW TO GET INVOLVED, VISIT CLEGUARDIANS.COM/COMMUNITY

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IN THE COMMUNITY

IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

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Through the Diamond Improvement Grant program, the Cleveland Guardians annually provide up to six organizations with a grant of $5,000 for local league programming, field renovation and equipment.

PLAYBALL! CLE

PlayBall! CLE is an initiative of Cleveland Guardians Charities that will provide financial support to underserved baseball and softball organizations throughout Greater Cleveland. The goal of PlayBall! CLE is to improve the quality of the youth baseball and softball experience, provide access and opportunity for youth, and ensure leagues/organizations are applying consistent best practices.

WAYS TO SUPPORT CLEVELAND GUARDIANS CHARITIES

CIC GIVEATHON PRESENTED BY KAULIG GIVING

Since 2019, CGC has raised over $1M for youth baseball & softball initiatives and the Digital Divide in Cleveland. Join us in August 2023 for our fifth annual CGC Giveathon presented by Kaulig Giving.

GOLF OUTING

August 21, 2023 at Quail Hollow Country Club

50/50 RAFFLE

Tickets for all raffles can be purchased online at www.cleguardians5050.com

SIGNIFICANT OTHERS AUCTION

The Significant Others Auction will take place this year on July 7 & 8, 2023

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Cleveland Guardians Community Impact is dedicated to improving communities across Northeast Ohio by providing resources for social equity, education, and youth programming and select health and environmental initiatives.

RBI PROGRAM

The RBI program is a Major League experience for youth baseball & softball players from Cleveland Metropolitan School District and Cleveland City Rec. Junior Boys, Senior Boys & Girls play on a competitive team and travel to the RBI Regional Tournament. In 2022, the Senior Baseball & Senior Softball teams won regionals and went on to play at the RBI World Series in Vero Beach, FL.

SWING FOR TREES PRESENTED BY DAVEY TREE

This season, for every home run hit by the Guardians at Progressive Field, the Guardians and Davey Tree are committed to plant a tree in greater Cleveland. We want to do our part to rebuild the tree canopy in NE Ohio.

VELOSANO

The Guardians are a proud founding partner of VeloSano. Since the inaugural ride in 2014, we have helped raise nearly $30 million for cancer research at Cleveland Clinic. The Guardians VeloSano team has raised over $1 million dollars to date.

CLE INSPIRES WEEK

Stay tuned for our third annual CLE Inspires Week, August 19 -25, 2023.

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PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

CLEVELAND GUARDIANS CHARITIES™

CLEVELAND GUARDIANS CHARITIES (CGC) CELEBRATES ITS 34TH YEAR SERVING THE COMMUNITY IN 2023.

GUARDIANS 50/50 RAFFLE

Help CGC continue to provide baseball and softball opportunities to underprivileged youth by participating in the 50/50 Raffle Campaign – purchase a chance to win half the pot at select kiosks during each home game, the other half is donated to CGC.

For more information or to pledge your support, visit CLEGuardians.com/community or call 216-420-HITS. Tickets can also be purchased at cleguardians5050.com

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Our National Parks

The National Mall welcomes millions every year, but what they see is hardly welcoming.

Eric Chwang

More than two miles of open space, monuments, and memorials welcome and inspire 25 million visitors to our nation's capital each year. But like many national parks, the National Mall in Washington, D.C., desperately needs our help. Although Congress has proposed some additional investment, "America's front yard" still needs $350 million in federal funding for maintenance, repairs, and preservation. Now is the time to act if we're going to preserve our national parks in time for their upcoming centennial, and ensure they can be enjoyed by our children and our grandchildren.

You can help with a simple letter. Visit NPCA.org/mall. Or call 1-800-NAT PARK.

National Parks Conservation Association®
Protecting Our National Parks for Future Generations®

CLEVELAND Guardians™ TEAM STORE

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216.420.GEAR (4327) // GUARDIANS TEAM STORE AND SOUVENIR STANDS

It is illegal for landlords and real estate agents to deny you housing opportunities because of your ethnicity. The Fair Housing Act prohibits housing discrimination based on national origin. If you believe you have experienced a violation of your rights, file a complaint.

Go to **hud.gov/fairhousing** or call **1-800-669-9777**
Federal Relay Service **1-800-877-8339**

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

FAIR HOUSING: THE LAW IS ON YOUR SIDE.

A public service message from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in cooperation with the National Fair Housing Alliance. The federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status or disability.

US DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

NFHA National Fair Housing Alliance

CLE

INSPIRES

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Devastation after the hurricane in Haiti.

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After a disaster stops "trending" and the media leaves the scene, Concern stays behind to finish what we started. When a natural disaster, health epidemic or human conflict strikes, our response is not only to save lives, but to help the most vulnerable communities stand on their own again. Our work isn't just about showing up, it's about following through.

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For military veteran caregivers, caregiving often starts earlier in life and lasts longer. **To better care for your loved one, you must also care for yourself.**

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ChildFund®

The promise inside Hazel is greater than the poverty around her.

Hazel doesn't know what she wants to be when she grows up, and that's just fine. At age 11, her job is to play, grow and learn. But for kids like her in the world's poorest places, poverty gets in the way.

ChildFund works in 24 countries to make sure children grow up healthy, educated, self-sufficient and safe, wherever they were born.

Thanks to generous supporters, our programs help children fulfill their potential. That's been our promise to them for 80-plus years.

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